ヴァーミリオン 01 佐藤敦紀

Kadokawa Comics A

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ヴァーミリオン 01

佐藤敦紀

SATOH ATSUNORI

KCA31 2
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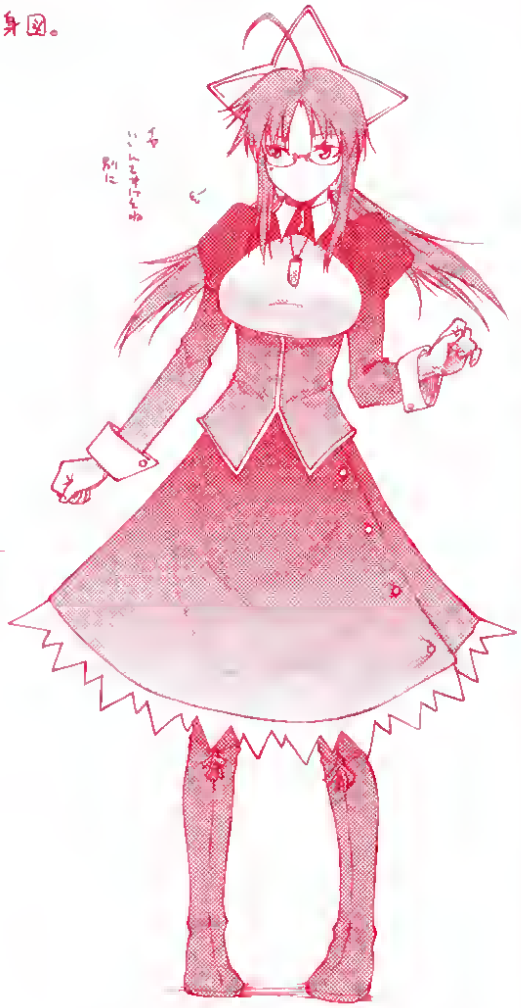
※本編に全く出てない
秋雨瑞波（あきさめみずは）の全身図。



Kadokawa Comics A

佐藤敦紀

ATSUKI SATOU

ヴァーミリオン

01

Vermilion

ヴァーミリオン 01

佐藤敦紀

ATSUKI SATOU

KCA317-2
角川書店

9784041204481

1920979005600

ISBN978-4-04-120448-1
C0979 ¥560E

定価：本体560円(税別)／発行：角川書店

全ての鬼を滅ぼすことに、青年は己を捧げる…。

摂理を乱し、理不尽を撒き散らす不死の化物“鬼”が跋扈する今世。「鬼殺し」を名乗る高校生・千寿は、異様な雰囲気を纏う少女・弥勒とともに、街を徘徊する鬼達を殲滅していく。そこに正義の概念はない…なぜなら、ただ鬼を斬ることが、彼の“存在理由”なのだから。

THESE DEMONS AND GOBLINS...
... THERE ARE A LOT POPPING UP.
gi
gi
gyaa
LET'S GO MIROKU.
YEAH, SENJU.

#01：鬼門 evil gate

佐藤敦紀

01 ヴァーミリオン

001 … #01：鬼門
evil gate

061 … #02：超音速の鬼
evil supersonic

121 … #03：視えない追跡者Ⅰ
stealth stalker Ⅰ

155 … #04：視えない追跡者Ⅱ
stealth stalker Ⅱ

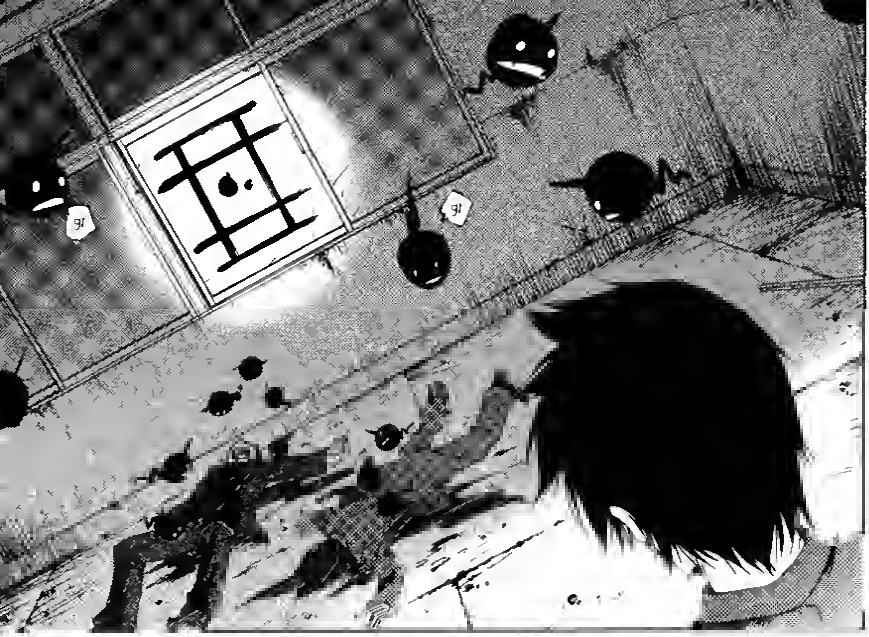
C O N T E N T S

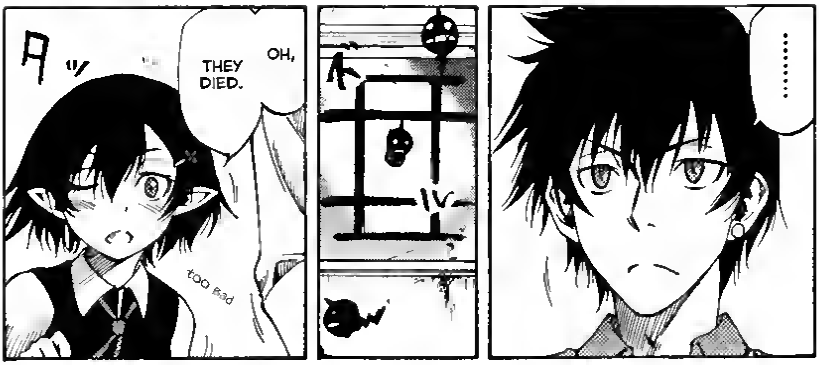
AH!
WAH
AH
I'LL GIVE YOU THE MONEY, SO SAVE ME!
I'LL APOLO-GIZE.
I- I WAS WRONG.
ST—
STOP!
AAAAAH
GAH
AH

ズ
gi
ビ
ビ

.....
THIS ISN'T SPONTANEOUS GENERATION.
SOMEONE INTENTIONALLY OPENED IT.
THE DARK GATE IS OPENING...
THERE'S NO MISTAKE
.....
THIS POSITION?
I KIND OF UNDERSTAND...
IT'S GETTING STRONGER.
THERE IS A GOOD COLLECTION OF MIASMA.
IT'S MOST LIKELY COMING FROM THE GATE.
A DEMON...
WILL MOST LIKELY EMERGE.
.....

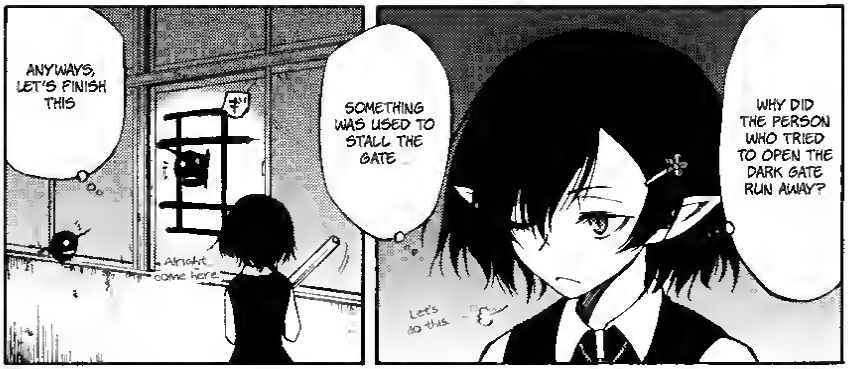
.....
IS THAT RIGHT?
.....
!
THERE'S WORK TO DO, SENJU.
IT'S THAT BUILDING
!

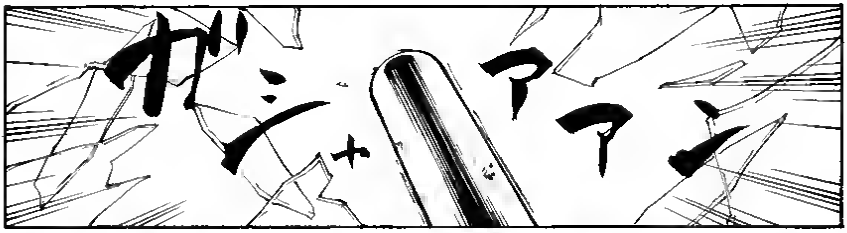



OH, THEY DIED.
too bad

BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE "DEMON" HASN'T COME OUT.
IN THAT CASE,
YOU SHOULD QUICKLY FINISH THIS,

SENJU.


ANYWAYS, LET'S FINISH THIS
Alright, come here
SOMETHING WAS USED TO STALL THE GATE...
Let's do this
WHY DID THE PERSON WHO TRIED TO OPEN THE DARK GATE RUN AWAY?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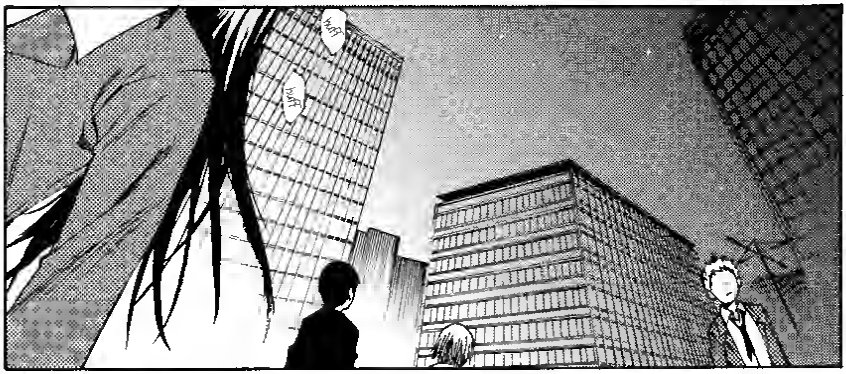
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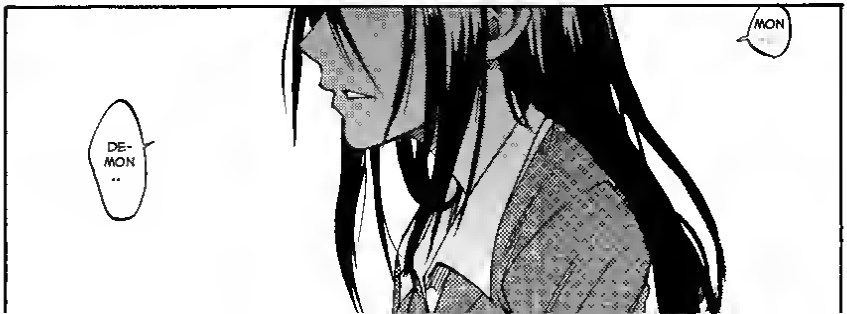
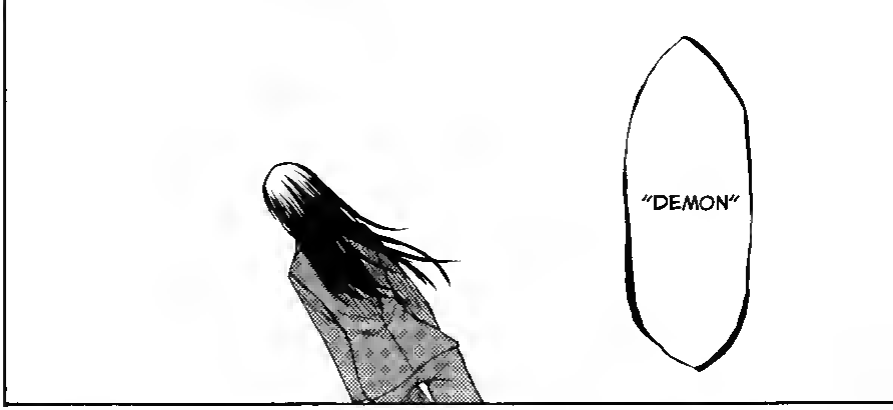
huff

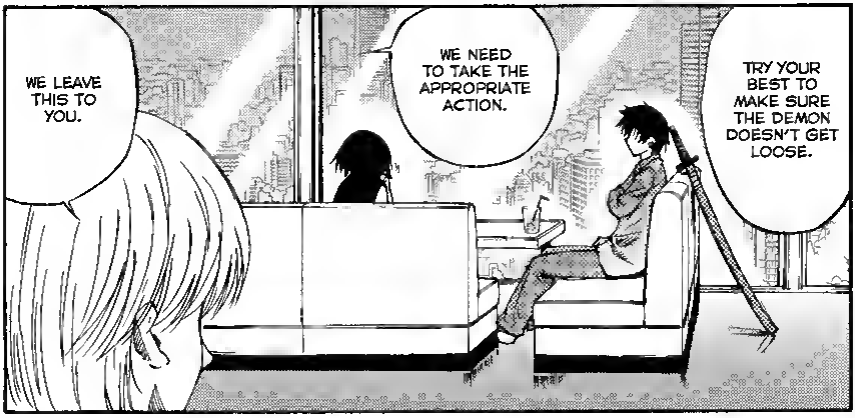

MON
DE-MON..


"DEMON"

....IT'S REGRETTABLE THAT THE DEAD CAME OUT.
HOWEVER, THAT ISN'T OUR PROBLEM.

THE NEXT TIME THE DARK GATE OPENS
WE'LL HAVE TO BE THERE TO DEAL WITH IT.
THE "DEMON" MAY APPEAR.

MIROKU.
KISAKI SENJU,
WE REQUEST THAT YOU CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS MISSION.

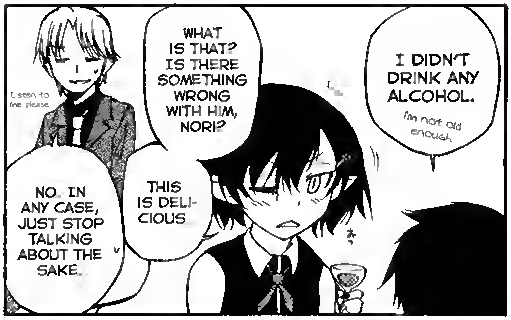

WE LEAVE THIS TO YOU.
WE NEED TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION.
TRY YOUR BEST TO MAKE SURE THE DEMON DOESN'T GET LOOSE.

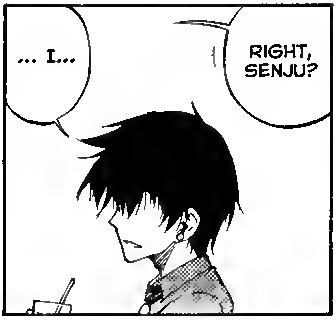
DELICIOUS ...!
.....
おお

I WAS JUST TALKING SERIOUSLY ABOUT BUSINESS, YOU KNOW...
UM... DID YOU LISTEN TO ME?
WHAT IS THIS ALCOHOL CALLED?
HEY, HEY, STRONG GUY.

WHY DOES AKISAME KNOW ALL THOSE DETAILS?
IT'S MADE WITH RED WINE MIXED WITH CREAM DE FRAMBOISE, WHITE CURACAO, AND OTHER THINGS SHAKEN TOGETHER.
IT'S CALLED APHRODITE. IT'S A WINE BASED COCKTAIL.

NOW THAT WE'VE BEEN SERVED GOOD WINE,
I'LL BE JUST FINE.
I UNDER-STAND, WE'LL GET THE JOB DONE RIGHT.


I seem to be pleased.
WHAT IS THAT? IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM, NORI?
I DIDN'T DRINK ANY ALCOHOL.
I'm not old enough.
NO. IN ANY CASE, JUST STOP TALKING ABOUT THE SAKE.
THIS IS DELI-CIOUS


... I...
RIGHT, SENJU?

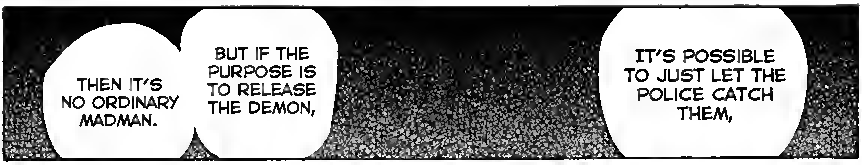
I...
WILL DEFINITELY CUT DOWN THE "DEMON."
AND THAT'S THAT.

.....

.....
THAT'S GOOD AND ALL, BUT DO YOUR JOB.
GET ME ONE TOO!!
AH, NO FAIR!
ANYWAY, ONE MORE JUICE,

... HOWEVER,
THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF DARK GATES APPEARING LATELY.
ちぉ
ちぉ
SINCE LONG AGO, THEY'VE BEEN SEEN MANY TIMES.
ONE TIME TOO MANY. KIREI ARE COMING OUT.
THAT CAN'T SIMPLY BE THE MISTAKE MADE BY AN AMATEUR, THOUGH
IT CAN ONLY BE DONE WITH EXPERT KNOWLEDGE.
BUT IT CAN'T BE A PRO.
YES.
IF IT WAS A PRO, IT WOULD'VE BEEN MORE ORDERLY,
DON'T YOU THINK?
ALSO, A BLOCK WAS USED.
IT COULD BE THE WORK OF A PROFESSIONAL.

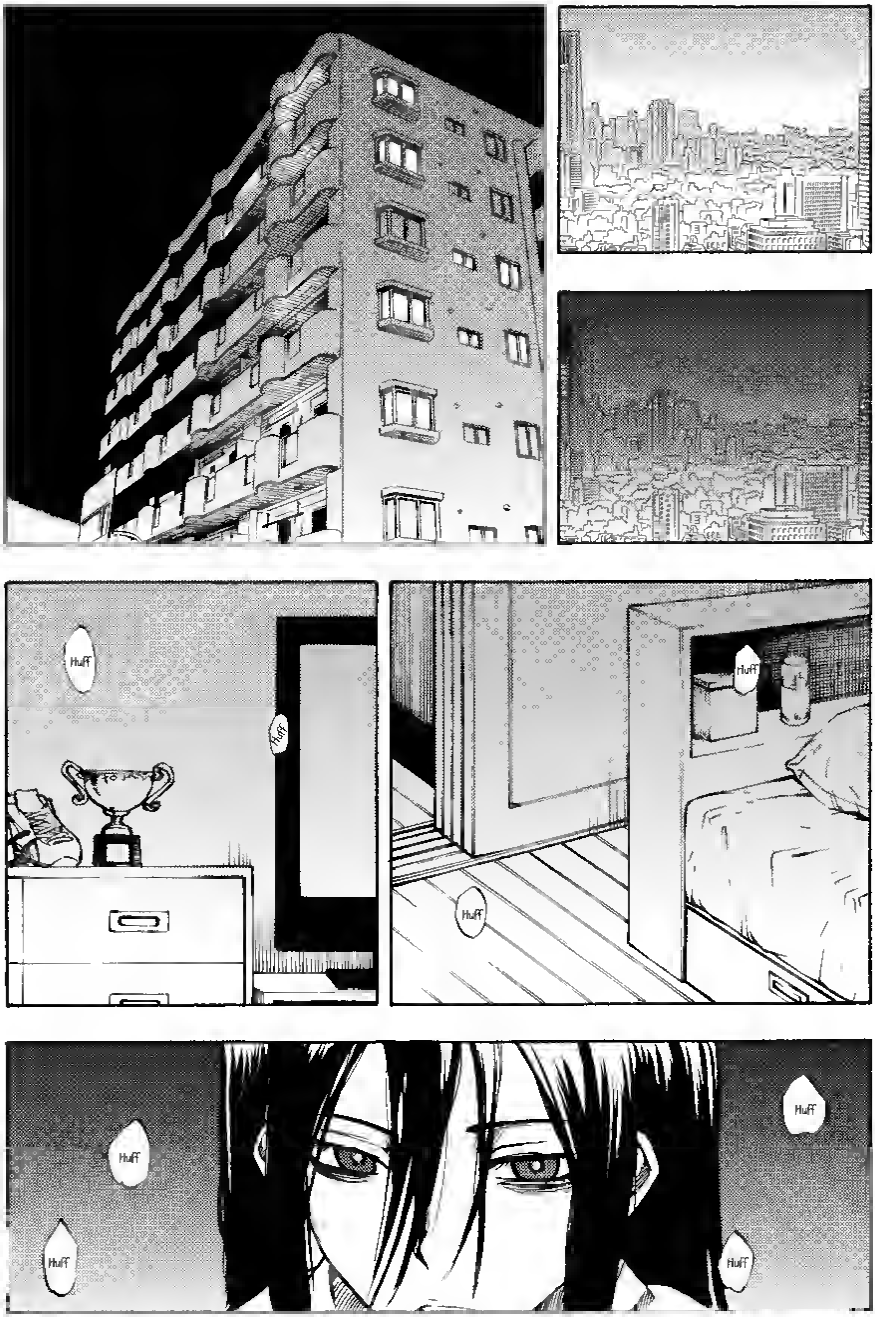
THE CRIMINAL THIS TIME JUST USED THAT
FOR THEIR OWN ENDS
"SOMEONE" LET THE YARI-KATA RUN.


THEN IT'S NO ORDINARY MADMAN.
BUT IF THE PURPOSE IS TO RELEASE THE DEMON,
IT'S POSSIBLE TO JUST LET THE POLICE CATCH THEM,

YOU HAVE BEEN LIVING FOR THAT REASON.
SINCE THE TIME WE MET,

SINCE ONE YEAR AGO—
YOUR POWER IS NEEDED, SENJU

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.
VERY GOOD, VERY GOOD.
FOR TOMORROW, IT'S OKAY TO SLEEP NOW, SENJU.
"I STILL HAVE A LITTLE INVESTIGATING I'D LIKE TO DO"
IS WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY.
BUT I'D LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE THAT ALCOHOL FROM EARLIER.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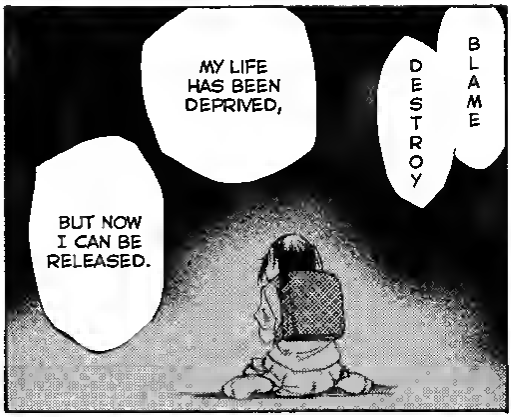
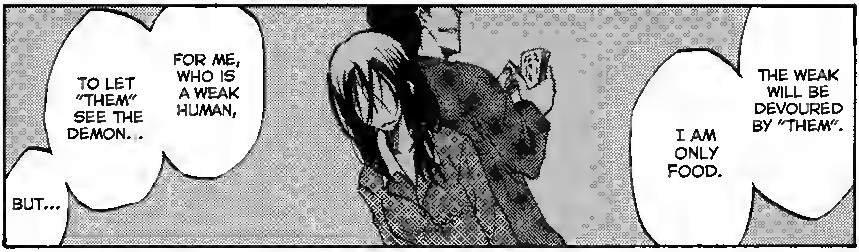

BLAME
DESTROY
MY LIFE HAS BEEN DEPRIVED,
BUT NOW I CAN BE RELEASED.

A LITTLE MORE
JUST A LITTLE MORE.
MY WISH WILL SOON BE FULFILLED...


THE WEAK WILL BE DEVOURED BY "THEM".
I AM ONLY FOOD.
FOR ME, WHO IS A WEAK HUMAN,
TO LET "THEM" SEE THE DEMON...
BUT...

NO MATTER HOW MANY DEMONS THEY CAN SEE,
HUMANS ARE HUMANS.
BEFORE THE REAL "DEMON"
ALL HUMANS ARE EQUAL.

I AM THE SAME
JUST FOOD.

THIS TIME, FOR SURE,
"DEMON" ...
I WILL BE ABLE TO RELEASE YOU.

I
CAN BE RELEASED.

LET'S GO, MIROKU.
YEAH.
IT'S COMING, SENJU!
ばっ
ズズズ
ズズズ

Gasp
AC
IT'S AFFECTING THE NEIGHBORS
I AM A LITTLE SORRY
Huh
Gasp
Looks like a huge fiend
OH—
AN AMAZING MIASMA APPEARED.
IT REALLY DOES.

MIROKU.
SO WE BETTER GET GOING, 'KAY?
GEEZ, THE 7TH FLOOR, HUH?

す

READY
Go
ぐんっ
TSK
GETTING AHEAD OF HERSELF...!
WHOA
トーン

LET'S GO—♡
……
TADA!
ストッ
THAT GIRL...
SHE REALLY NEEDS TO STOP GOING OFF ON HER OWN...
HH

THE MIASMA...
IT'S WRAPPED AROUND HER
HEY...
IT CAN'T BE...
"DEMON"—

!!
TSK
!!

OH...
.....

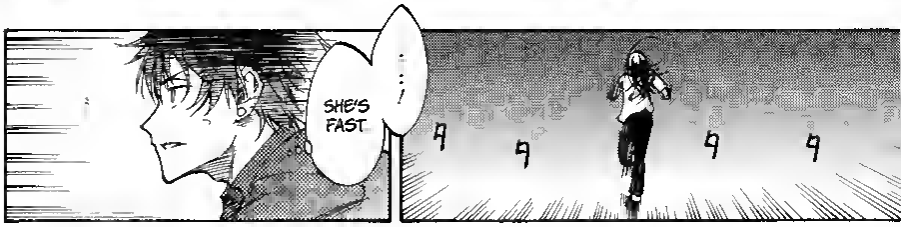
THERE ARE LOT OF GOBLINS....
THIS IS AMAZING...

WHAT'S WRONG, SENJU?
?

MIROKU!
!
HEY!

FOLLOW AFTER ME.
THE CULPRIT.

WHAT!?
I LEAVE THAT PLACE TO YOU.
I FOUND IT!


SHE'S FAST.

THESE GUYS ARE JUST DECOYS.
I SEE.

THIS IS CONVENIENT FOR ME.
AH— WHATEVER.
THE AIR WITHIN ME IS THE SAME.
GOBLINS AND MONSTERS ARE JUST MASSES OF MIASMA.

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ﾀﾞ
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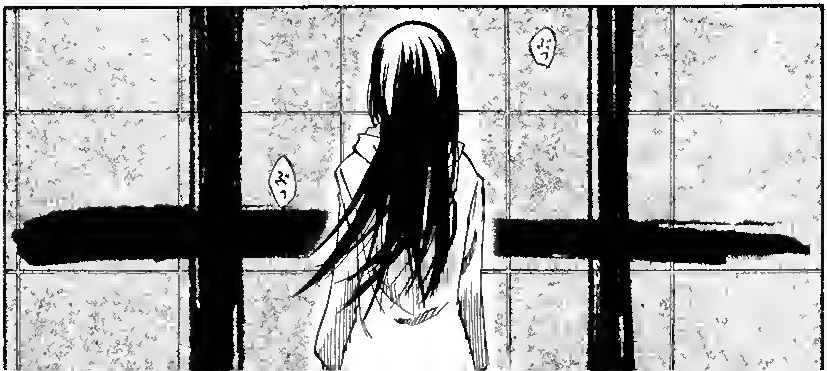
ﾊﾟｰ
!

SHE PLANS ON SLOWING ME DOWN...!

！
……

中央公園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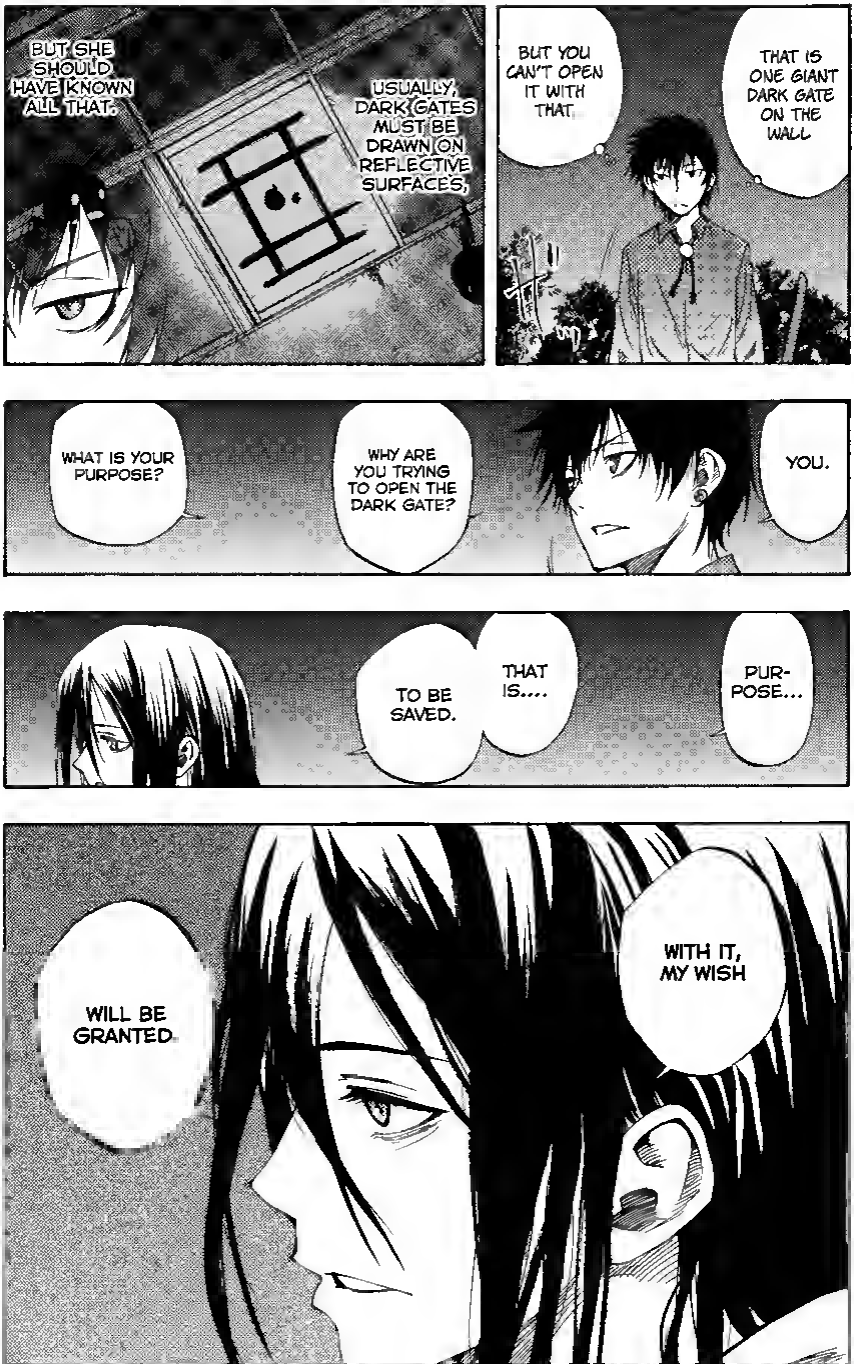
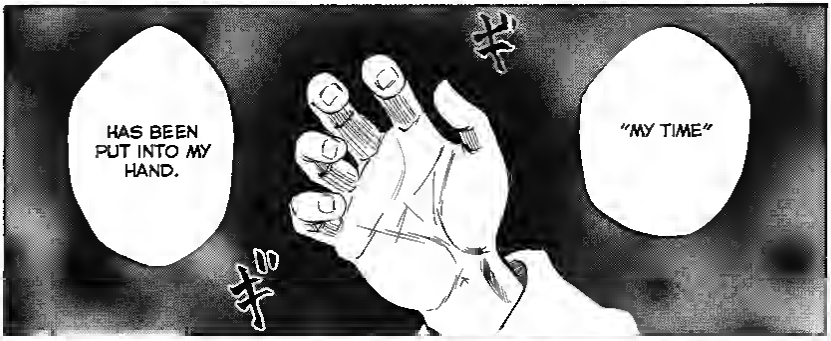
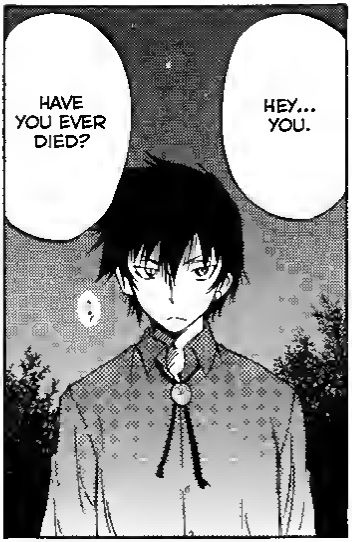

BUT SHE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ALL THAT.
USUALLY, DARK GATES MUST BE DRAWN ON REFLECTIVE SURFACES.
BUT YOU CAN'T OPEN IT WITH THAT.
THAT IS ONE GIANT DARK GATE ON THE WALL
WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE?
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO OPEN THE DARK GATE?
YOU.
TO BE SAVED.
THAT IS....
PUR-POSE...
WILL BE GRANTED.
WITH IT, MY WISH

BY MYSELF ...
I CAN DO IT.
IT CAN COME TRUE.

THE "DEMON" CAN GRANT WISHES?
WISH ...?

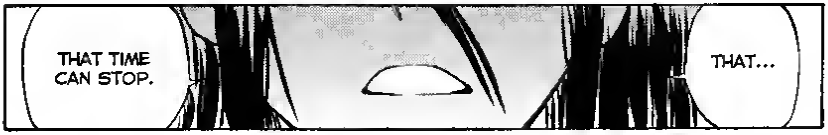

HAS BEEN PUT INTO MY HAND.
"MY TIME"

THAT IS WHAT WE'RE OFTEN TOLD.
"IF A HUMAN IS ABOUT TO DIE, THEY CAN DO ANYTHING."
THAT IS A LIE.


HAVE YOU EVER DIED?
HEY... YOU.

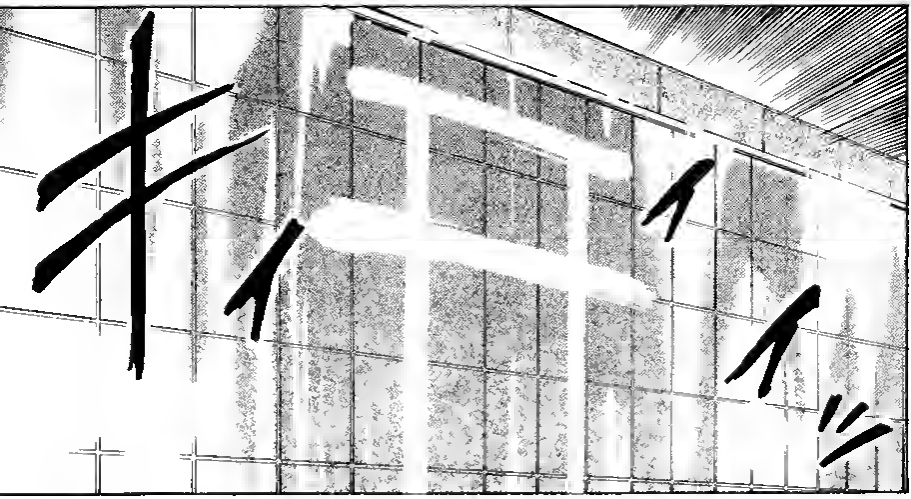
IF ONE MOVES TIME JUST A LITTLE,
ONE'S SELF WILL STOP.
BUT MUCH IS RESTORED.
THEY CAN SHINE FOR JUST AN INSTANT.

"DEATH" IS USELESS,
YOU KNOW, RIGHT?
TIME MUST CONTINUE
TO TRULY LIVE,


THAT TIME CAN STOP.
THAT...

BUT IT WILL START MOVING SOON.
AND THEN
MY WISH WILL ALMOST BE FULFILLED.
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ

THE FOUNTAIN
THIS IS WHAT SHE WAS WAITING FOR !!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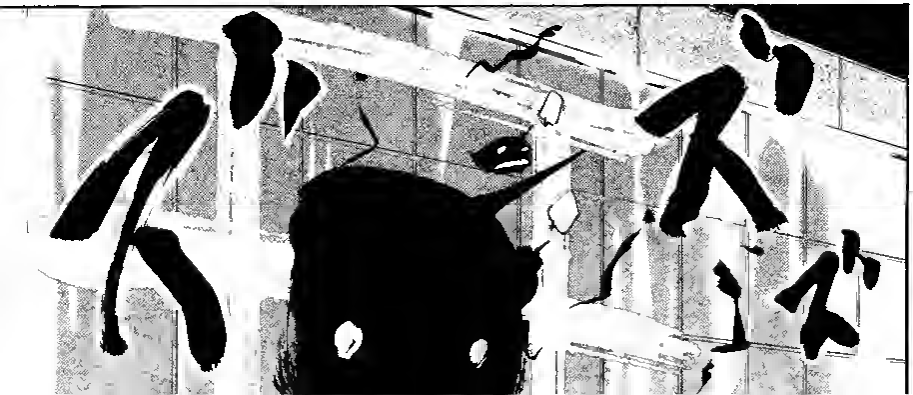

ズズズ

GI
GI
AHE
AAAA
THE GOBLIN,
"DEMON"

DEMON
.....
WITH MY WISH IS...
THIS,
GI
SO THIS GUY IS KIND OF A COLLECTION OF ALL THE SPIRITS AND GOBLINS
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT HAS RATIONAL THOUGHT OF ITS OWN.
MOST LIKELY,
GI
.....

IT WORKS SIMPLY ON FULL DISTRACTIVE IMPULSES.

ゴゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴゴ
!
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU STAND OVER THERE.
HEY!

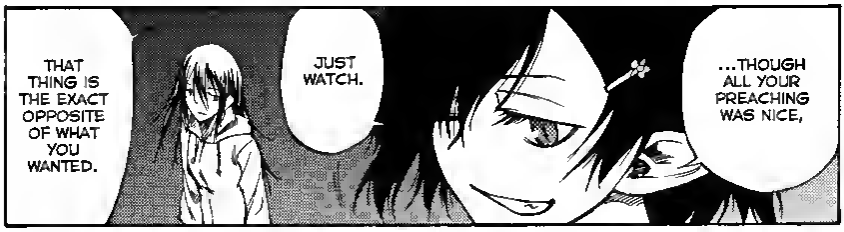
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO DO, BUT
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THAT OVER THERE.
.....
YOU WANTED TO ENTRUST THE "DEMON" WITH YOUR WISH, BUT
IT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS BEAUTIFULLY SHATTERED.
.....

"DEMON"

ALL WILL BE CUT DOWN.
"DEMON"

... HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW OF DEMONS?
!
DID YOU PICK UP THE INFORMATION FROM SOMEWHERE?
OR DID SOMEONE TELL YOU?

THAT THING IS NOT THE KIND OF DEMON YOU WANT TO CALL.
YOU'LL END UP LOSING YOUR HUMANITY.


...THOUGH ALL YOUR PREACHING WAS NICE,
JUST WATCH.
THAT THING IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU WANTED.

"DEMON" IS A MURDEROUS MONSTER THAT EATS HUMANS.
AND SENJU WILL CUT IT.

I
AM A "DEMON SLAYER".
GY
AH

アッ
ゴ!!

RUSHING IN WASN'T ENOUGH.
IT'S PRETTY HUGE, ISN'T IT?
IT'S DONE.
GI
GI

I KNOW.
AHAHAH, STILL NAIVE.
IT'S ONLY BEST WHEN YOU GET IT WITH A SINGLE BLOW.

DEM-
ON
SLAYER
...?
.....
PHEW....

AT THE CENTER OF ALL DEMONS
A CORE OF MIASMA CAN BE FOUND
THOSE ARE, IN EFFECT, THEIR HEARTS.
WHEN YOU SEVER THE TIES BETWEEN THE MIASMA AND THE CORE,
THE DEMON'S CORE IS WHAT REMAINS.
"I WILL CUT DOWN DEMONS".
THAT IS THE JOB OF A DEMON SLAYER.

THAT IS THAT GUY'S
REASON TO LIVE.

Gi-
q-
q

WHATEVER IT IS,
WHAT IS YOUR WISH?
WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE?
バシャ
I WILL
ALWAYS CUT DOWN EVERY "DEMON" THAT APPEARS.

Substitute Scans

presents

Vermillion

by Satoh Atsushi

chapter 1

credits

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Translator Mich
Proofreader Rukayex Wong
Cleaner King Lear Takuo
Redrawer SaltnCheese Toxi
Typesetter Suukantsu
Quality Cantrol Takuo

RECRUITING CL'ERS AND TL'ERS!

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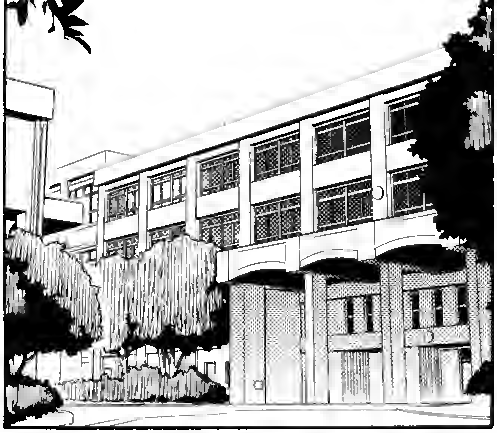
I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE...
#02
TO BECOME NOTHING, TO "DIE"...

OR TO BE USED BY ME.
SO, CHOOSE,
BRAT.

#02：超音速の鬼 evil supersonic



Sigh

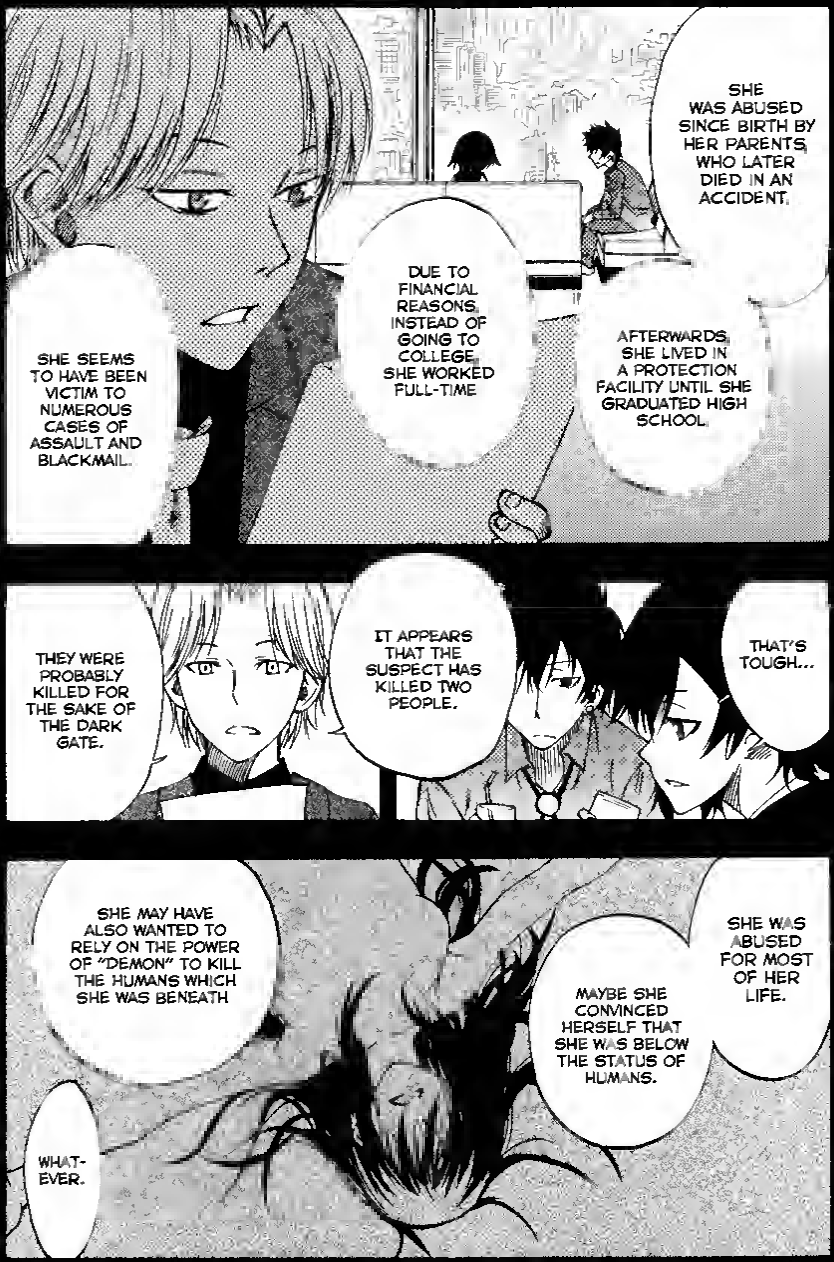
IT'S NOT LIKE I CARE ABOUT ACADEMICS...
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...
It's difficult
HEALTHY BOYS SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL IN THE AFTER-NOON.

GOOD MOOOOOOO ORNING,
KISAKI-KUN!!
IN MY OPINION, I SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SLEEP IN THE AFTERNOON
THAT BEING SAID, IT'S BECAUSE MY WORK IS AT NIGHT
AAH,
SORRY, KISAKI-KUN.
WHAT KIND OF RESENTMENT DO YOU HAVE TOWARDS ME?
IWASAWA.
NO, I AM REALLY SORRY...
BUT WITH THAT, YOU'RE AWAKE, RIGHT?
WITH THAT BEING SAID, WON'T YOU GO OUT WITH THIS IWASAWA, YUKINO-CHAN?
THAT IS TO SAY, GO OUT WITH ME ♡
.....!
Is this a dream?

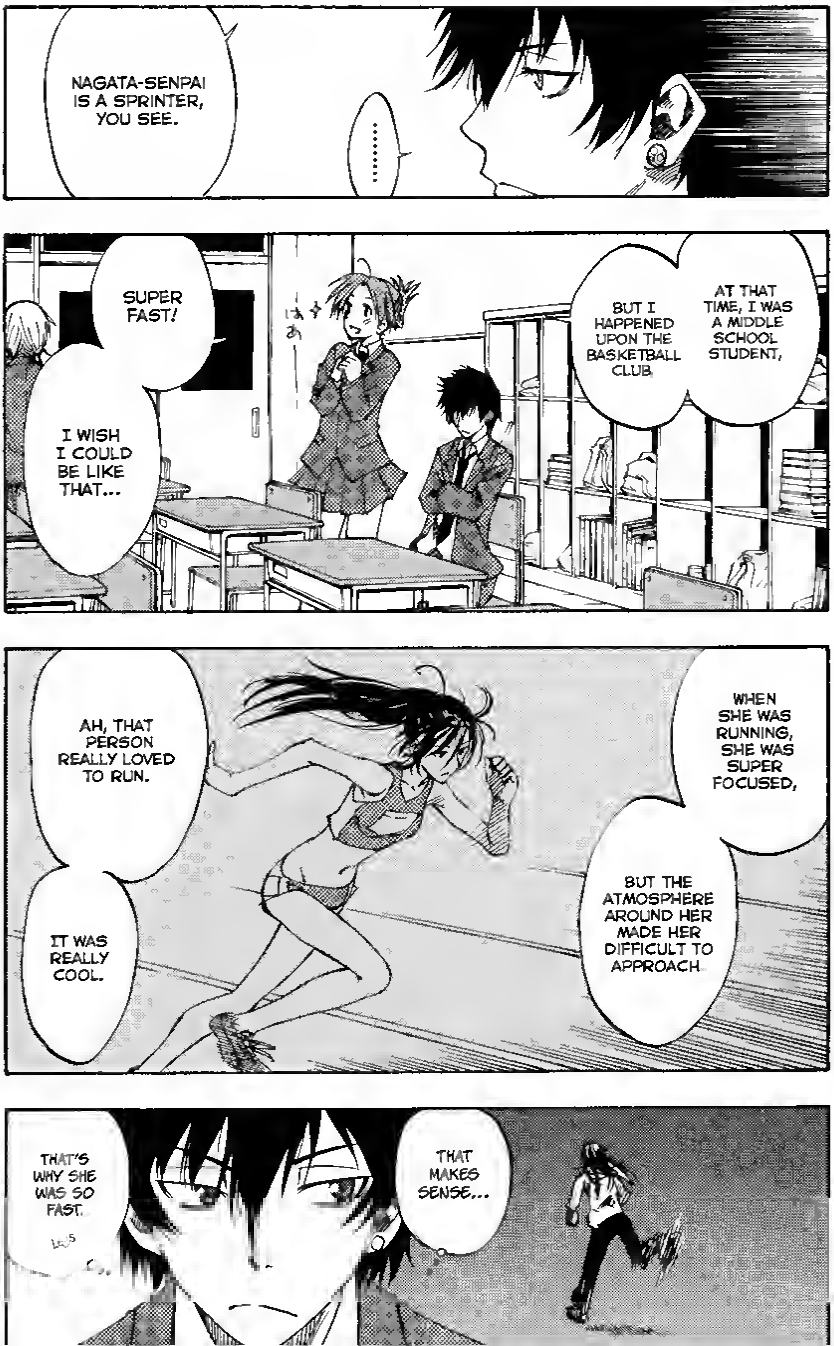
... SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT IWASAWA?
YOU SEE, JUST NOW I FELT A STRONG, REALLY LONELY FEELING.
... I SEE.
Something
KISAKI-KUN PROBABLY KNOWS THAT PERSON...
THIS SCHOOL'S OG.

"NAGATA MUTSUKI-SAN" IS WHAT THIS SENPAI IS CALLED. BUT
.....!
IT SEEMS THAT PERSON WAS RECENTLY ARRESTED
FOR MURDER.

NAGATA MUTSUKI,
22 YEARS OLD.
SPORT SUPPLIES MANUFAC TURER.


SHE WAS ABUSED SINCE BIRTH BY HER PARENTS, WHO LATER DIED IN AN ACCIDENT.
AFTERWARDS, SHE LIVED IN A PROTECTION FACILITY UNTIL SHE GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL.
DUE TO FINANCIAL REASONS, INSTEAD OF GOING TO COLLEGE, SHE WORKED FULL-TIME
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN VICTIM TO NUMEROUS CASES OF ASSAULT AND BLACKMAIL.
THAT'S TOUGH...
IT APPEARS THAT THE SUSPECT HAS KILLED TWO PEOPLE.
THEY WERE PROBABLY KILLED FOR THE SAKE OF THE DARK GATE.
SHE WAS ABUSED FOR MOST OF HER LIFE.
MAYBE SHE CONVINCED HERSELF THAT SHE WAS BELOW THE STATUS OF HUMANS.
SHE MAY HAVE ALSO WANTED TO RELY ON THE POWER OF "DEMON" TO KILL THE HUMANS WHICH SHE WAS BENEATH
WHAT-EVER.

MIROKU-KUN WHAT WAS HER CONDITION WHEN YOU CAUGHT HER?
HM?
I GUESS SHE SEEMED OKAY BUT...
COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE UPSET.
EVEN THOUGH WE DEFEATED THE DEMON,
IT WAS ALMOST AS IF...
SHE HADN'T GIVEN UP ON HER GOAL.
THIS PROBABLY ISN'T OVER
THAT IS TO SAY...


NAGATA-SENPAI IS A SPRINTER, YOU SEE.
.....
SUPER FAST!
I WISH I COULD BE LIKE THAT...
BUT I HAPPENED UPON THE BASKETBALL CLUB.
AT THAT TIME, I WAS A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT,
AH, THAT PERSON REALLY LOVED TO RUN.
IT WAS REALLY COOL.
BUT THE ATMOSPHERE AROUND HER MADE HER DIFFICULT TO APPROACH.
WHEN SHE WAS RUNNING, SHE WAS SUPER FOCUSED,
THAT'S WHY SHE WAS SO FAST.
THAT MAKES SENSE...

I WONDER WHAT IT'S CALLED
AH, YOU SEE
BECAUSE OF BEING CAUGHT OR NOT...
... SO THIS IS THAT "SAD FEELING"?
WHAT A THING TO HAPPEN.
ぐっ
SURELY, I THOUGHT I WOULD UNDERSTAND.
I THOUGHT I DID, BUT IT'S STILL LONELY.
SHE WAS ALWAYS A PERSON WHO GAVE IT HER ALL, SO WHY DID SHE BECOME A MURDERER?
YOU CAN NEVER GET WHAT YOU WANT...
CAN BE OBTAINED
MY TIME
TIME——
.....

留置所
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff

IS THIS ALL YOU CAN PUT OUT?
.....
THE MORE DEAD, THE MORE MONEY THAT IS RETURNED TO ME.
A WEAK PERSON LIKE YOU IS USELESS TO US
THE WAY YOU ARE NOW, YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
LIVING OR DYING, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND EITHER OF THEM.
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW YOU GET IT.
IF YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, GIVE ME MY MONEY.

BECAUSE I LONG FOR "DEMON"
NOR DO I...
..BECAUSE I KILLED
FEAR AND ANGER NO LONGER EXIST..
IT'S ALMOST AS IF THIS IS THE FEELING OF NOT YET BEING HUMAN
I AM NOT YET HUMAN
.....
NOW, THIS PATH HAS STOPPED
IN THE END, I CAN ONLY KEEP CONTINUING TOWARDS MY DREAM
EVEN SO..
MY WISH CAN'T BE GRANTED

ALWAYS,
ALWAYS,
TO KEEP RUNNING...
MY WISH IS...

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……？
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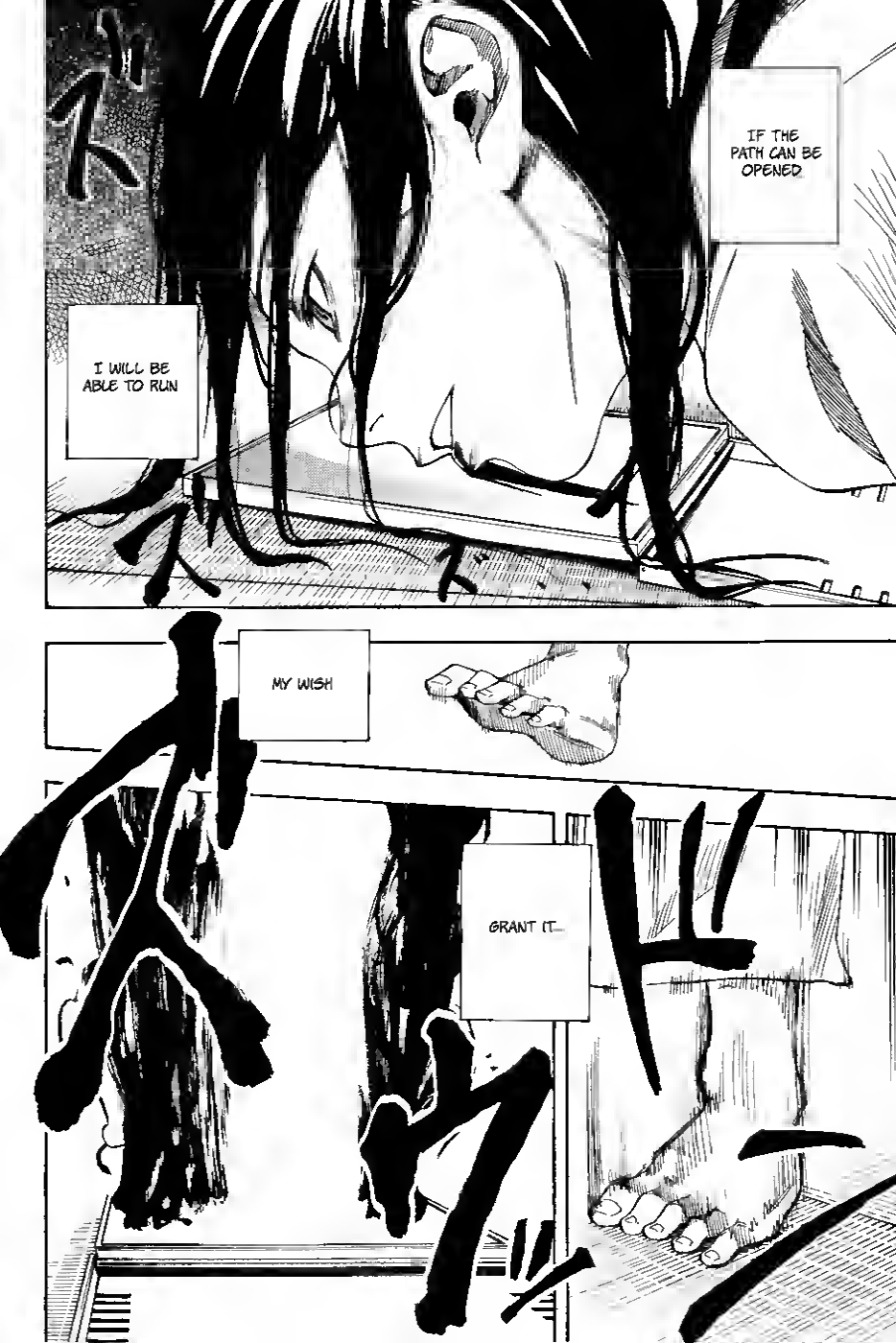
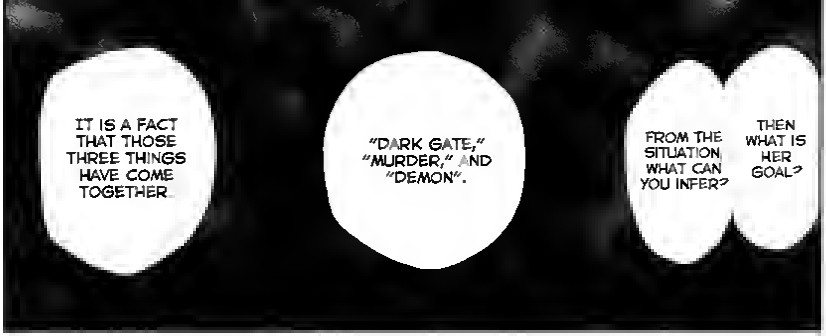
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
HERE... IT IS.
WHY?
A MIRROR!?


IF THE PATH CAN BE OPENED
I WILL BE ABLE TO RUN
MY WISH
GRANT IT...

IT'S NOT OVER YET.
Beep
IT'S TRUE...
.....!
THAT GIRL.
SHE WASN'T THAT INDIFFERENT,
I THINK SHE STILL WANTS TO REACH HER GOAL.
YEAH
BUT WHY?
SENJU!
THERE PROBABLY HASN'T BEEN ANY MOVE-MENT.


IT IS A FACT THAT THOSE THREE THINGS HAVE COME TOGETHER.
"DARK GATE," "MURDER," AND "DEMON".
FROM THE SITUATION, WHAT CAN YOU INFER?
THEN WHAT IS HER GOAL?

BUT IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO GET AWAY FROM THE POLICE.
THAT'S TRUE.
.....!
MY TRUE SELF
IT WILL BE ABLE TO GRANT IT.

FOR NOW, WE JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT.
THAT IS THE "ANSWER" TO THE CURRENT SITUATION.
NOW, WE HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME.

IT'S PROBABLY THE PERSON WHO LET HER KNOW ABOUT THE DEMON.
THAT "SOME-ONE" IS...
BUT IF SHE WERE TO COOPER-ATE WITH SOMEONE, SHE COULD.
THAT'S WHAT WE EXPECT OF HER GOAL, BUT YOU CAN'T BE TOO SURE.

JUST WAIT "THERE," SENJU
I'M WAITING...
IS IT REALLY "HERE"?
IT'S MY GUT FEELING.
WHAT?!
I EXPECT THAT I DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE.
I'M ALSO GOING NOW.
JUST STAY PUT AND BE QUIET.

MIROKU.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST COME HERE FROM THE START?
JEEZ...
.....

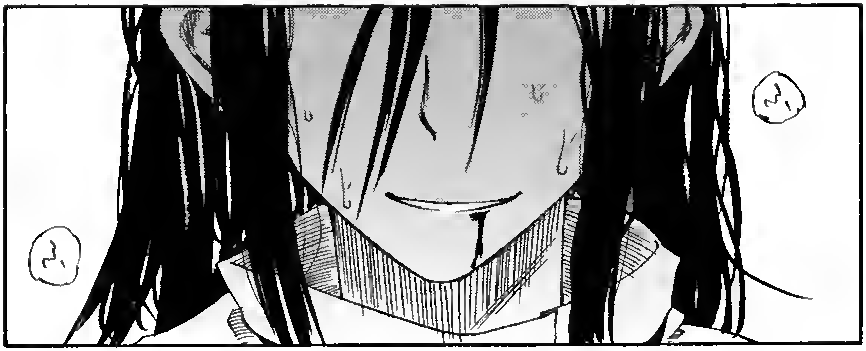
JUST AS YOU EXPECTED.
SHE'S ALREADY COME,

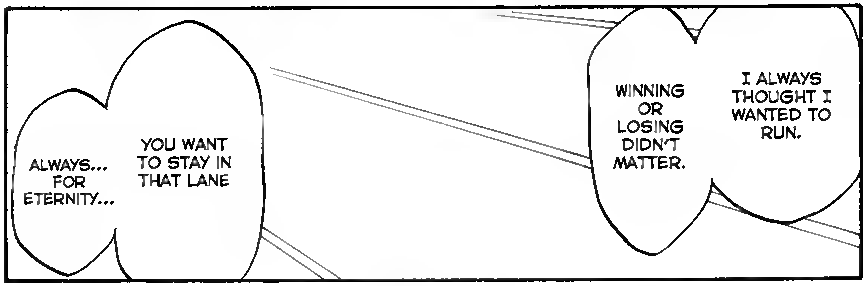
YOU ARE...
.....!

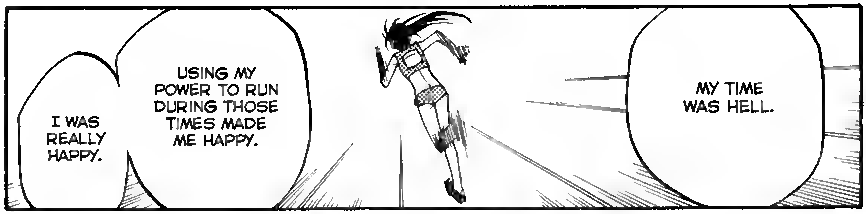
THE STADIUM,
THE TRACK AND FIELD AREA...

NAGATA-SENPAI.
Or something like that
... I REALLY THOUGHT YOU'D COME,

SO YOUR PURPOSE IS NOT TO "CALL ON DEMON"?
YEAH.
MY WISH IS GRANTED.
IF
.....
YOUR WISH.
THAT IS
YOUR TRUE SELF WILL BECOME "DEMON".




I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WANTED TO RUN.
WINNING OR LOSING DIDN'T MATTER.
YOU WANT TO STAY IN THAT LANE
ALWAYS... FOR ETERNITY...


MY TIME WAS HELL.
USING MY POWER TO RUN DURING THOSE TIMES MADE ME HAPPY.
I WAS REALLY HAPPY.

BUT... THAT TIME HAD TO END.
PEOPLE WILL DIE AT SOME POINT
THEY AREN'T ETERNAL BEINGS.

TO BECOME ETERNAL...
THE FEELING OF DEATH IS NOT ETERNAL.
HAVE YOU EVER DIED?
HEY... YOU...
AT LAST,
A PERSON CAN FULLY BE ALIVE
BELIEVE "YOU CAN NEVER DIE".
A HUMAN MUST HAVE KILLED
THE DARK GATE MUST OPEN
AND A DEMON MUST BE PRODUCED.
FOR A HUMAN TO USE A DEMON FROM THE DARK GATE, THREE CONDITIONS MUST BE MET.
.....

THE HUMAN WILL CHANGE INTO A DEMON.
I WON'T LET YOU.
IF YOU OPEN THE DEMON GATE WITHOUT FOLLOWING THESE CONDITIONS,
BUT YOU ARE TOO LATE,
I SEE.
IS ALREADY OPENED.
IF ANOTHER DEMON GATE

AH.
ALREADY, THE DEMON GATE IS ON HER OWN BODY?!

ゴオ
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Gah.
THE DEMON CONVERSION IS
ゴゴ

WHO TAUGHT HER SUCH AN UNDERHANDED TRICK?
PROBABLY SOME MANIAC.
USING HER TRUE FEELINGS AS A BOOST TO MAKE THE DEMON TRANS-FORMATION OCCUR...
UH-OH.
THAT'S RATHER DIRTY.
!
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT.
SHE'D DEFINITELY SHOW UP HERE
HUH? IT'S JUST AS I SAID IT WAS.
MIROKU!
You're late
SINCE THAT'S THE CASE
YOU SHOULD HANDLE IT ALONE.
ANYWAYS— UP UNTIL NOW, STOPPING IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE.
Can't be helped
AS THE TRANSFORMA-TION OFTEN GIVES UNIQUE ABILITIES.
A HUMAN TRANSFORMS INTO A DEMON THAT IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM OTHER DEMONS,

"DEMON SLAYER"?
RIGHT,
.....
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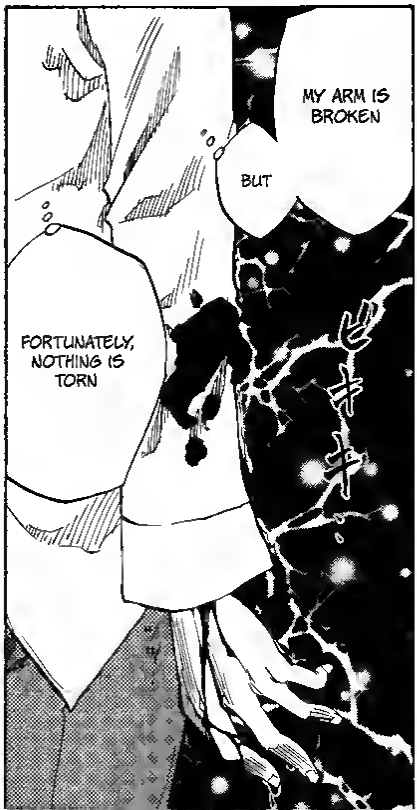
CAN SHE SURPASS THE SPEED OF SOUND!?
THE SOUND WAS DELAYED
NO, THIS IS...
I CAN'T SEE...
YOUR LEFT ARM!!
SENJU!!!


MY ARM IS BROKEN
BUT
FORTUNATELY, NOTHING IS TORN

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"

Gi!!
Gi !!
Gah!

IF...
ｼﾞｬｯ
BUT
THERE IS NO TIME FOR "REACTION"
I SERIOUSLY CAN'T SEE..

PHEW.
... SOME-HOW, I MADE IT.

OH,
IT MISSED.

IF I MOVE OUT OF ITS PATH JUST IN TIME, IT WON'T HIT.
BUT IT ONLY MOVES STRAIGHT
CERTAINLY, IT'S VERY FAST.
Ku
Ku
ズ
ズ
TO CATCH IT PERFECTLY
!
Kuku.
A SUPERSONIC SPEED "DEMON".
Ku.
THE SWORD ALONE WILL JUST BE BLOCKED.
THE PROBLEM IS IN MY ATTACK.
AND IT'S EVEN HARDER WITH ONE ARM.

Ku.
Kuki.
Koko.

!
USE YOUR POWER.
LEND IT.

SERIOUSLY, THIS ISN'T AS FUN AS IT SEEMS
MIROKU

I WILL BE ABLE TO FINISH IT.
... I WILL.

IT WILL PROBABLY EAT AWAY AT YOUR SOUL, RIGHT?
... IS THAT REALLY OKAY?

DEMONS.
CUT DOWN EVERY SINGLE ONE.

ドクン
ドクン

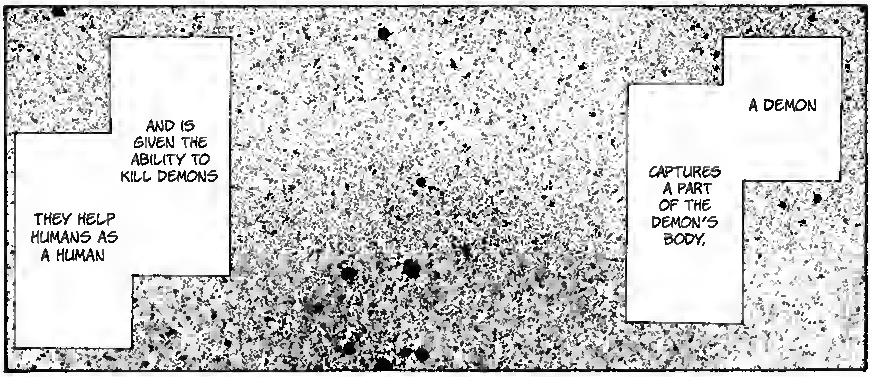
ON THAT LANE...
ALWAYS WANTING TO STAY
BECAUSE IT'S JUST ME IN MY OWN WORLD.
"I DON'T GET IN ANYONE'S WAY."
ONLY THERE,
THE WORLD THAT DOESN'T DIE.
AH,
THIS IS...
MY ETERNAL WORLD.
I LONGED FOR IT.

HEY, YOU.
HAVE YOU EVER DIED?
YEAH.
.....

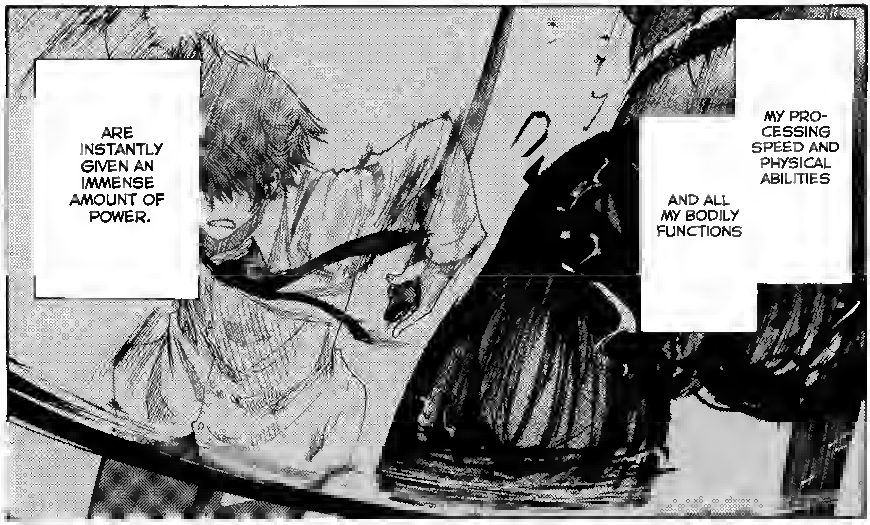
I HAVE ONCE DIED.
THEN — I WAS ABLE TO CONTINUE LIVING.
THANKS TO THE "DEMON,"
MIROKU.

I LET YOU CONTINUE LIVING.
THAT'S RIGHT, KISAKI SENJU.
ONE YEAR AGO, ON THAT DAY
I CHOSE YOU.
YOUR TRUE SELF,
LIVING FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR PURPOSE.

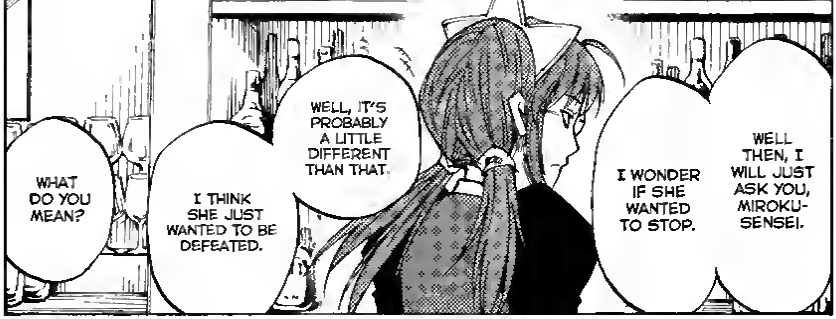
AND LASTLY, I WILL CUT MYSELF DOWN.
THEN, I WILL CUT YOU DOWN.
I WILL CUT DOWN EVERY DEMON.
YEAH.
AS A DEMON SLAYER.
UNTIL THAT TIME, I WILL LIVE...
TO THE TIME YOU CUT THEM DOWN.
I AM LOOKING FORWARD...


A DEMON
CAPTURES A PART OF THE DEMON'S BODY,
AND IS GIVEN THE ABILITY TO KILL DEMONS
THEY HELP HUMANS AS A HUMAN

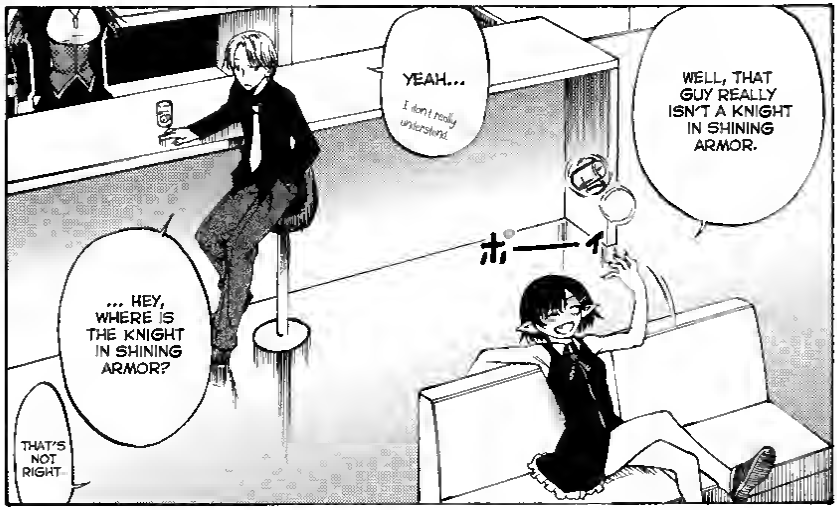
I CAPTURE THE "DEMON'S BLOOD"!
AND WITH THAT...


MY PROCESSING SPEED AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES
AND ALL MY BODILY FUNCTIONS
ARE INSTANTLY GIVEN AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF POWER.

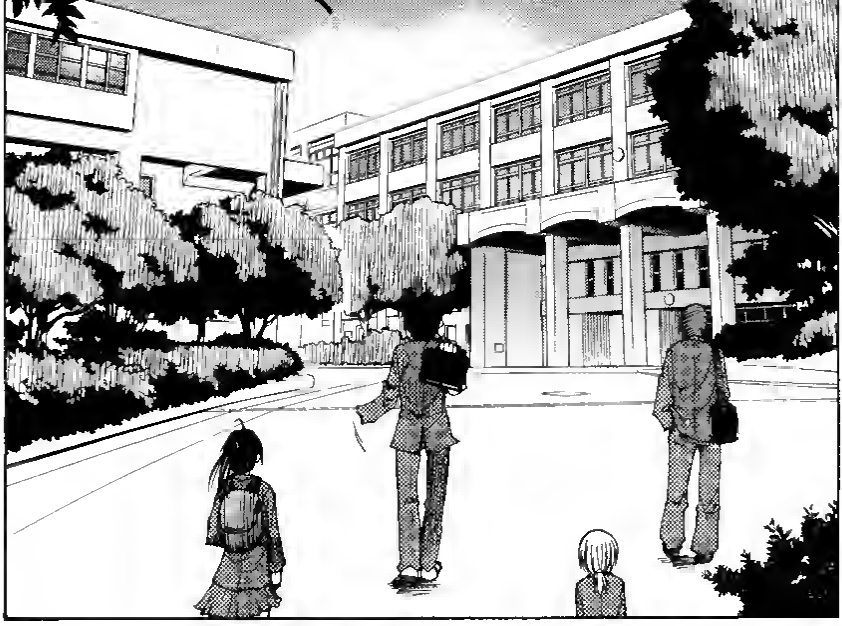
IN THE END,
THE SUSPECT'S DEATH IS A MYSTERY.
WELL, THAT'S THE STORY THAT IS COMMONLY TOLD, ANYWAY.
BUT IF SOMEONE STARTS TO INVESTIGATE NAGATA MUTSUKI, WE WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE.
...HOWEVER, THAT GIRL WENT DOWN A PATH THAT WASN'T HER ONLY CHOICE
THERE WERE OTHER WAYS FOR HER TO HAVE DONE IT
SHE CHOSE THAT PATH ON HER OWN.
OTHERS JUST WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.
IT'S THAT WAY, ISN'T IT...
AS EXPECTED OF MIROKU-KUN, WHOSE LIFE IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM OURS.
RIGHT, A DEMON'S LIFE.

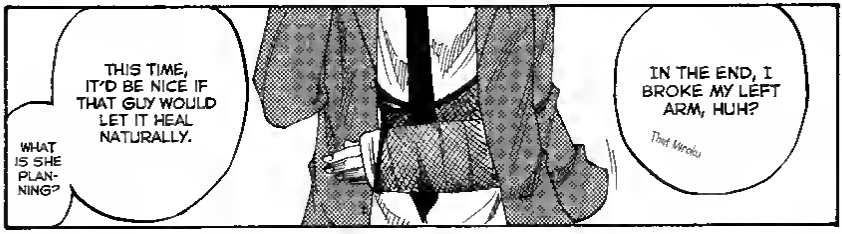

WELL THEN, I WILL JUST ASK YOU, MIROKU-SENSEI.
I WONDER IF SHE WANTED TO STOP.
WELL, IT'S PROBABLY A LITTLE DIFFERENT THAN THAT.
I THINK SHE JUST WANTED TO BE DEFEATED.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

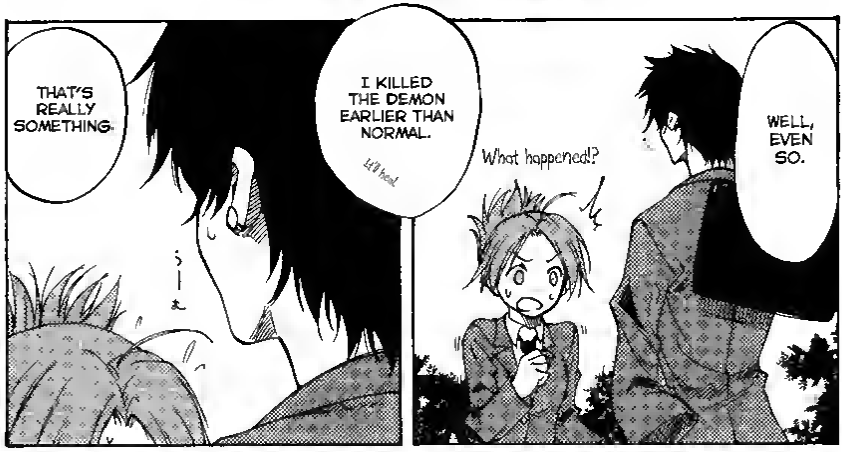
AS A CRIMINAL WHO KILLS PEOPLE.
IN OTHER WORDS, AS THE BAD GUY.
SHE WANTED TO BE DEFEATED BY A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR,
THIS IS TO SAY.


WELL, THAT GUY REALLY ISN'T A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR.
YEAH...
I don't really understand.
ホーイ
... HEY, WHERE IS THE KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR?
THAT'S NOT RIGHT.

TODAY IS A WEEKDAY, RIGHT?
HE WENT TO SCHOOL.




IN THE END, I BROKE MY LEFT ARM, HUH?
That Miroku
THIS TIME, IT'D BE NICE IF THAT GUY WOULD LET IT HEAL NATURALLY.
WHAT IS SHE PLANNING?


WELL, EVEN SO.
What happened?
I KILLED THE DEMON EARLIER THAN NORMAL.
Lil' bad.
THAT'S REALLY SOMETHING.
SIGH

ANYWAYS, HE'S A REALLY INTERESTING GUY.
THAT BOY
IS REALLY UNEXPECTED.
"LIVING TO BE A DEMON SLAYER."
THAT PURPOSE AND "REASON" INCLUDED.

Vermillion
ヴァーミリオン

What have I said about not disposing of empty cans properly?!
ゴ゛ゴ゛
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ぐしゃ

Substitute Scans

presents

Vermillion

by Satoh Atsuki

chapter 2

credits

Raw fallen Syndicate
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Proofreader Rukayex Wonder
Cleaner King car
Redrawer Takuo
Typesetter Suukantsu
Quality Cantrol Takuo

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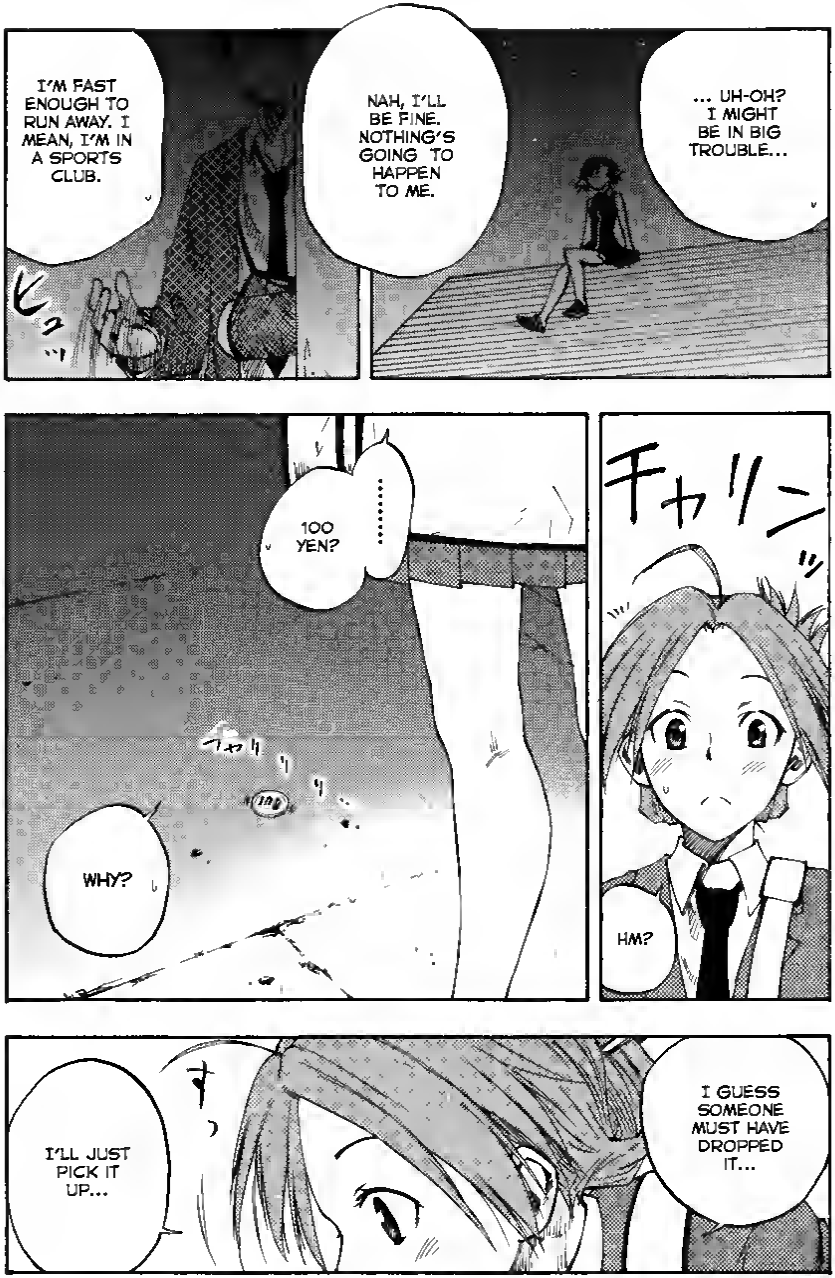
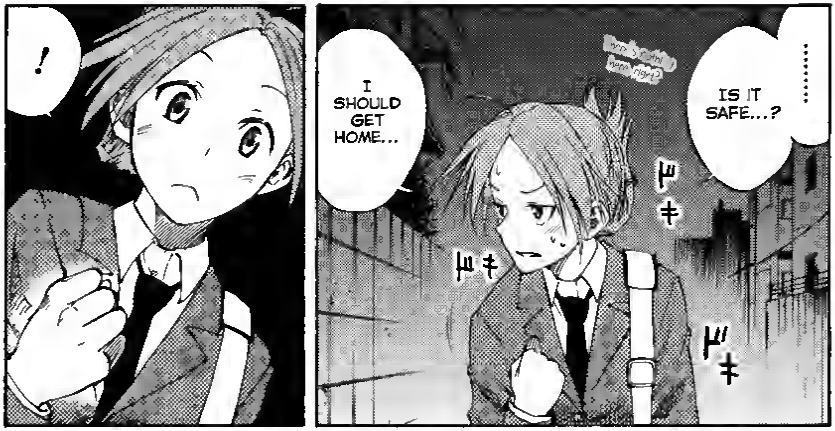
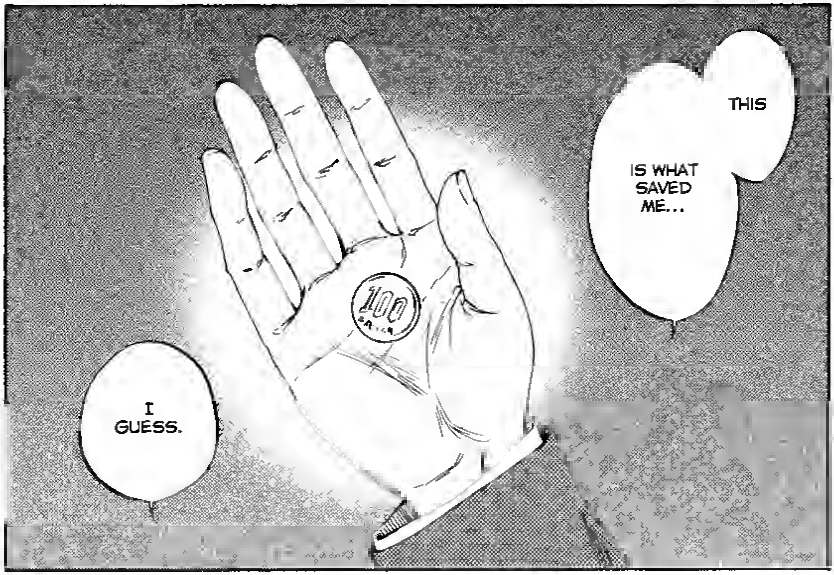
AH,
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE.
WELL THE BIG GAME IS COMING UP,
I CAN'T SLACK OFF WITH PRACTICE
#03
19:58
KURI-YAMA
OH,
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I HEARD THERE HAVE BEEN MANY STRANGE INCIDENTS RECENTLY.
oh, no
THEY SAID... UMM... THAT GIRLS HAD BEEN ATTACKED AT NIGHT
AND THAT NO ONE HAS SEEN THE CULPRIT...


I'M FAST ENOUGH TO RUN AWAY. I MEAN, I'M IN A SPORTS CLUB.
NAH, I'LL BE FINE. NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME.
... UH-OH? I MIGHT BE IN BIG TROUBLE...
100 YEN?
WHY?
チャリン
HM?
I'LL JUST PICK IT UP...
I GUESS SOMEONE MUST HAVE DROPPED IT...

パラ
WAI-
HUH!?
WHAT WAS THAT?!
パラ
パラ
HUH?
……

THE PHANTOM SLASHER EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT...?
NO WAY, COULD THIS BE...?
WHAT, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
THERE'S NOTHING THERE, RIGHT...?
IT'S GONE...
THE MIASMA HAS RECEDED...



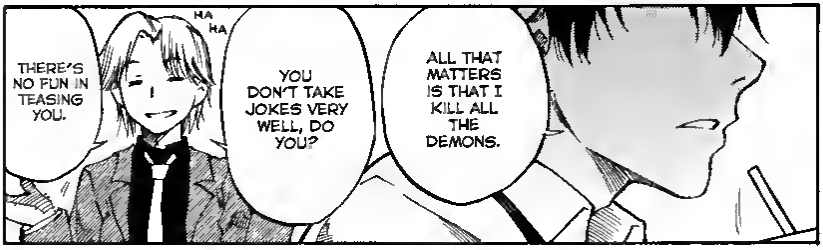


#03：視えない追跡者 I stealth stalker I

"ITS" NEXT TARGET IS...
FUJINARA HIGH SCHOOL SECOND YEAR STUDENT, IWASAKI YUKINO.
SENJU-KUN'S CLASSMATE, HUH?
THAT'S A COINCIDENCE
.....
THIS DEMON THAT'S APPEARED RECENTLY HAS ATTACKED
FIVE GIRLS WITHIN THE PAST FEW DAYS.
LUCKILY, THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY FATALITIES,
BUT OVER HALF OF THE VICTIMS HAVE SUSTAINED SERIOUS INJURIES.

AND THE PROBLEM IS...
NOT A SINGLE PERSON HAS SEEN THE ASSAILANT.
SO...
—SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS THAT WE'RE DEALING WITH THE INVISIBLE MAN,
OR IN THIS CASE, THE INVISIBLE DEMON?
YEAH, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT.
SOMEHOW, IT'S MAKING ITSELF INVISIBLE.
THIS IS ONE OF THOSE SMALL NAGGING PROB-LEMS...
キイッ
I CAN TELL ROUGHLY WHERE IT IS BY ITS MIASMA, BUT...
IF WE CAN'T PINPOINT ITS LOCATION, WE CAN'T ATTACK
BECAUSE WE CAN'T RISK DESTROYING THE DEMON CORE
...I SEE
THAT'S A PROBLEM.
A small-fish one.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MONITOR THE SITUA-TION FOR NOW.
CAN'T BE HELPED

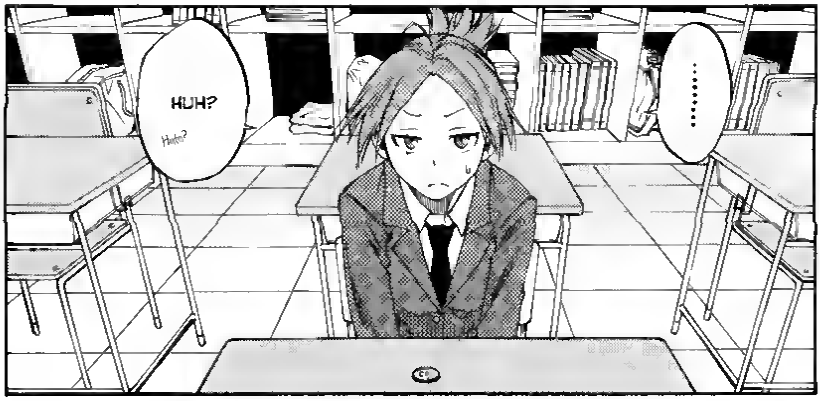
I'LL DO IT THE SAME WAY I ALWAYS DO.
7" 7"
MMM... IT SEEMS THAT THIS TIME THE VICTIM IS SENJU'S FRIEND, SO THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE GOOD.
IF SENJU CAN PLANT HIS FLAG AS A RESULT OF THIS, WELL, THAT'S JUST AN ADDED BONUS.



T/N "HATA" – "FLAG" IN JAPANESE. SENJU IS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE MEANING OF THE WORD "FLAG" WHICH IS MENTIONED IN ENGLISH IN THE FIRST PANEL. HE TRANSLATES IT TO JAPANESE IN HIS HEAD. BUT, OF COURSE, HE STILL CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF THE PHRASE "PLANT YOUR FLAG."

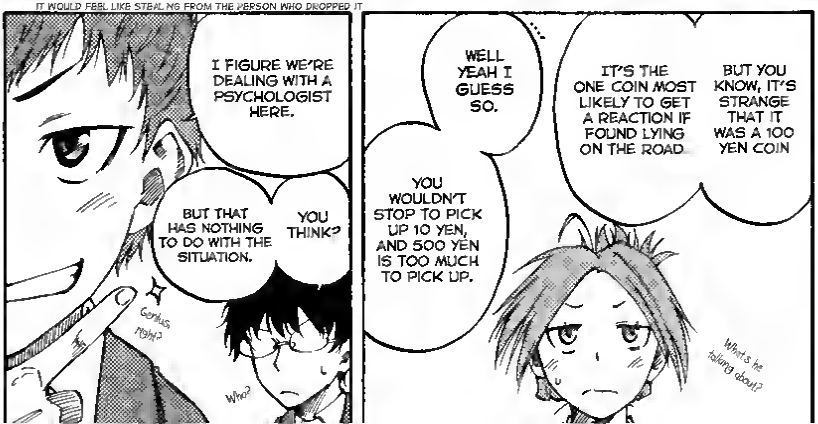
WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT FLAGS?
Huh?
OK, OK.
YOU JUST MAKE SURE NOT TO LET ANY INFO SLIP THROUGH YOUR FINGERS.
ANYWAYS, WE'LL THINK OF THE STRATEGY.
And gimme another beer

WOW, IWASAKI!
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT
IT'S A FLAG!!
Here he goes again



MORINO TENDS TO SAY ANYTHING THAT POPS INTO HIS HEAD OUT LOUD.
LET IT GO IN ONE EAR AND OUT THE OTHER.
IRIE-KUN, WHAT'S THIS GUY GOING ON ABOUT?
LOVE BOUGHT WITH A 100 YEN COIN, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
Romantic!
Z
Z
Z

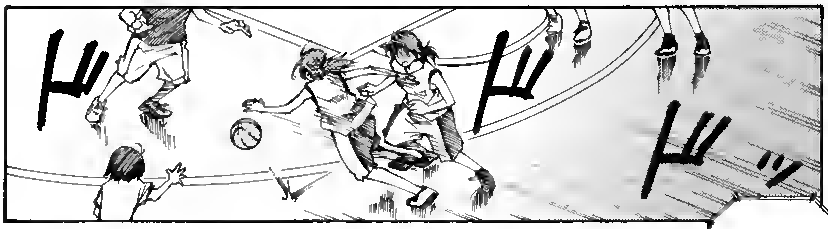
*T/N 100 YEN IS ABOUT 1 DOLLAR USD. MORINO'S FANTASIZING ABOUT IWASAKI FINDING AND FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE PERSON WHO THREW THE 100 YEN COIN
*T/N 500 YEN IS A LITTLE OVER 5 DOLLARS. UNLIKE AMERICANS, JAPANESE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO PICK UP THIS MUCH MONEY OFF THE STREET. TO THEM IT WOULD FEEL LIKE STEALING FROM THE PERSON WHO DROPPED IT.


I FIGURE WE'RE DEALING WITH A PSYCHOLOGIST HERE.
YOU THINK?
BUT THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SITUATION.
Genius, right?
Who?
WELL YEAH I GUESS SO.
IT'S THE ONE COIN MOST LIKELY TO GET A REACTION IF FOUND LYING ON THE ROAD.
BUT YOU KNOW, IT'S STRANGE THAT IT WAS A 100 YEN COIN
YOU WOULDN'T STOP TO PICK UP 10 YEN, AND 500 YEN IS TOO MUCH TO PICK UP.
What's he talking about?

I WANT TO PRACTICE.
Aw man!
I had a good map
BUT THE BIG GAME IS COMING UP, YOU KNOW?
Girl's basketball
むくっ
YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY HEAD HOME EARLY, AT LEAST FOR A FEW DAYS.
THE THING THAT ATTACKED YOU MUST HAVE BEEN THAT INVISIBLE SLASHER, RIGHT?
AH...
AH, KISAKI, YOU WOKE UP.
I MEAN, IT SAVED MY LIFE.
IT'S KIND OF HARD TO JUST LET IT GO LIKE THAT.
HEY, SHOULDN'T YOU TURN IN THAT 100 YEN COIN TO THE POLICE OR SOMETHING?
Yeah
IF YOU PICKED UP A 100 YEN COIN, BESIDES TURNING IT IN TO THE POLICE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT?
What's that, now
.....
OH HEY, KISAKI-KUN.
Good morning!

... BUT I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT.
I SEE...
I guess I could do something like that
... IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO DONATE IT.
Put it in a tip jar or something
I GET THE FEELING THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO DO SO.
I WANT TO GIVE IT BACK WITH MY OWN HANDS.
IWASAKI.
.....
THAT'S DANGEROUS. YOU SHOULDN'T REALLY. .
YEAH! POWER TO THE YOUNG!
I'M NOT GONNA BE SCARED OFF BY EVIL FORCES!!
AND I'M GONNA GO TO PRACTICE!
Woohoo!!

YOU CAN GO TO PRACTICE.
I'LL WALK YOU HOME.
EH?
.....



BUT, YOU KNOW,
THAT WAS PRETTY BALLSY.
Especially for you
NOT REALLY.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FASTER THIS WAY.
WE'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF CATCHING IT.
... YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT, RIGHT?
I'm being serious.
?

MAKE SURE YOU ESCORT THE PRINCESS OUT 'ERE!
IF YOU CAN BRING THE DEMON OUT HERE, WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIGHT FREELY.
MHM.
DON'T WORRY, I'M HERE.
AND I ASSUME YOU'RE IN POSITION THEN, MIROKU.
URG... THIS IS BAD...
My mind is racing
HEY... CONCENTRATE, YUKINO!!
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
FUJIMURA BBC
ゴ
ー
ン

.....

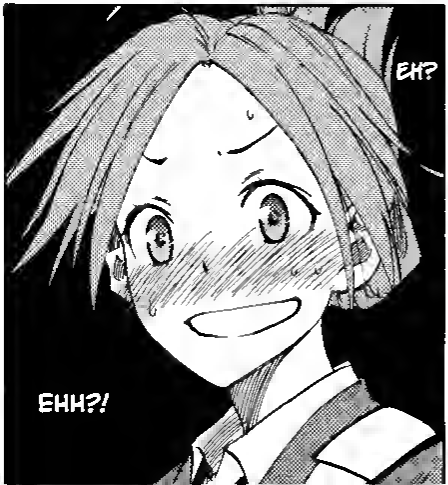
WHAT'S THIS..
UWAAH..
I'M SO NERVOUS, BUT...

IT'S FOLLOWING US
I CAN FEEL THE MIASMA...

IT SHOULD BE OK TO JUST STRING IT ALONG FOR NOW
MIROKU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET A GRASP ON EXACTLY WHERE IT IS

NO, NO HE'S JUST PROTECTION, JUST A BODY GUARD. IT MUST BE SOME OTHER FEELING
IWASAKI.
THIS IS JUST LIKE
"THAT" SORT OF FEELING!?

COME ON.
LET'S GO TO "THAT PLACE."
Y-
YES!?


EH?
EHH?!

藤美公園

!
I MEAN...
YOU HAVE TO PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR THIS SORT OF THING...
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT TIME, IT'S PLENTY DARK ENOUGH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NO, THAT'S EVEN WORSE, ISN'T IT!?
I THINK IT'S A LITTLE TOO SOON FOR THAT, KISAKI-KUN!
WAI-
WH-
WHAT!?
KISAKI-KU...
YOU KNOW,
AH!

!!?
EH
.....
Tch

RUN, IWASAKI.
HEAD TO THE PARK!
THIS COULD THIS BE THE INVISIBLE SLASHER...
NO...
THE ROAD JUST...
パラ
パラ
パラ
パラ

ダ
ダ
ダ
ダ

WHY...
WHY ME...?!
KYAA!
WAH!
ドキ
ドキ

LIKE I THOUGHT, I CAN'T PINPOINT ITS LOCATION.
I'M READING ITS MOVEMENTS MORE BY ITS AGGRESSION THAN BY ITS MIASMA.
YEAH, AGGRESSION...
NOT KILLING INTENT.
!!
IT'S LIKE A WILD BEAST...
IS CHARGING PLAYFULLY AFTER US.
ゴア

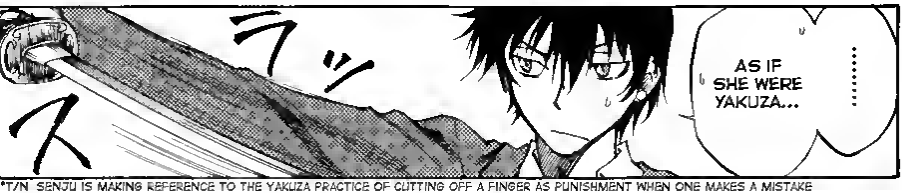
ゴオオ
THIS THING...
IT'S GOING TO COME AT HER AGAIN!
IWA...
!!
はッ
I HAVE TO, AT LEAST...
FOR IWASAKI...
ゴ!!

I THOUGHT I ASKED YOU TO ESCORT HER THERE.
SENJU.
GEEZ,
I WAS WAITING A LITTLE FURTHER AWAY.

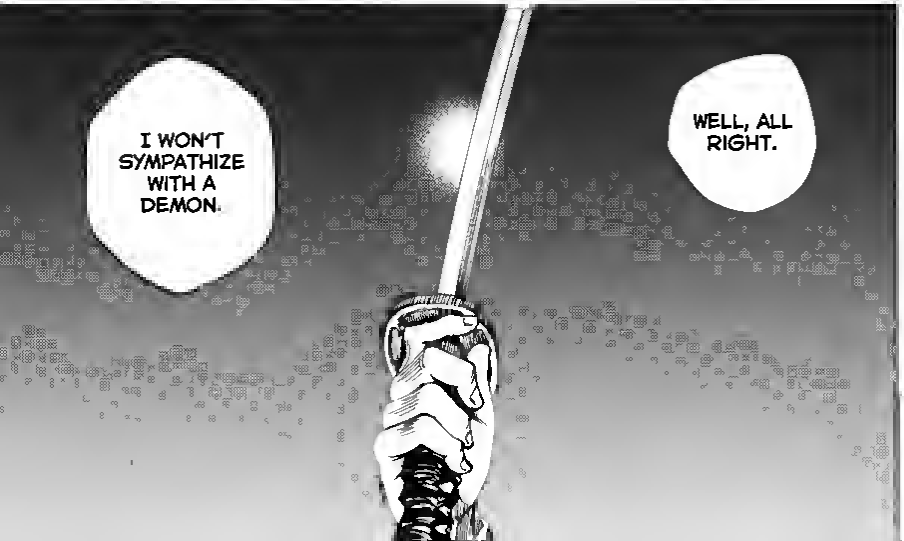
I'M THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED IT.
I'M NOT GONNA MAKE EXCUSES.
THAT'S UNCHARACTERISTICALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD OF YOU, SENJU.
WOAH,
SORRY, MIROKU.
.....

A DEMON CAN'T KILL ANOTHER DEMON.
YOU CAN'T EXTINGUISH MIASMA WITH MIASMA, YOU SEE.
NOW... IT'S GREAT THAT WE'VE CAUGHT IT, BUT...

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CHOP IT UP, PIECE BY PIECE
ON TOP OF THAT, YOU'VE ONLY GOT ONE ARM RIGHT NOW.
AND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO TELL YOU EXACTLY WHERE THE DEMON'S CORE IS.

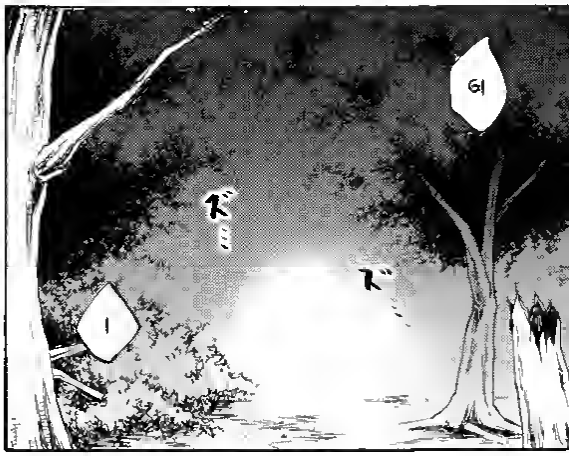


*T/N: SENJU IS MAKING REFERENCE TO THE YAKUZA PRACTICE OF CUTTING OFF A FINGER AS PUNISHMENT WHEN ONE MAKES A MISTAKE



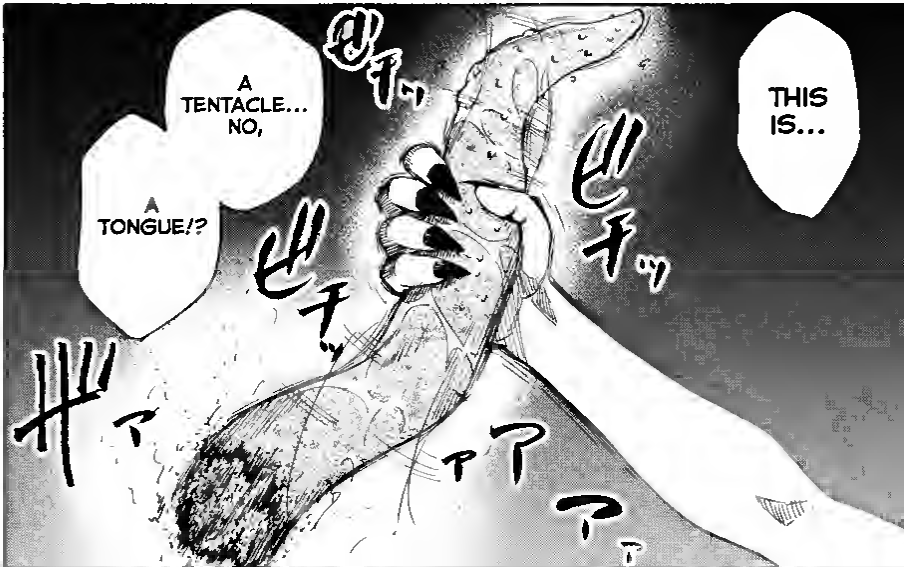
LET'S SEE,
WHO'S ARM DID WE GET...?
OHO!
GI.
YA
AA
THERE WAS A REACTION...
WHICH MEANS THAT EVEN IF WE CAN'T SEE IT, WE CAN HURT IT

SO IT'S BEING CAUTIOUS, EH?
IT'S RETREATED


GI

?
!
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS GOING TO BE A MORE FORMIDABLE OPPONENT THAN WE'D IMAGINED.

NO.


A TENTACLE... NO,
A TONGUE!?
THIS IS...

NO DAMAGE, HUH?
TCH.
EVEN IF YOU CUT IT OFF.
IT WILL PROBABLY REGENE-RATE THIS,
IT'S DETERIO-RATING RAPIDLY
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DEFEAT HIM.
IF WE CAN'T TAKE HIM OUT WITH A PRECISE ATTACK,
BASICALLY, WITHOUT DESTROYING THE DEMON'S CORE,
WITH ONE STRIKE...
KILL A DEMON YOU CAN'T SEE

SO
IS SHE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?
YES.
I WAS ABLE TO PUSH HER OUT OF THE WAY,
SO I DON'T THINK SHE TOOK TOO MUCH DAMAGE.
I SEE.
AND... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I DUNNO.
THERE'S A CHANCE SHE COULD STILL BE ATTACKED ON HER WAY HOME.
YOU GONNA TAKE HER ALL THE WAY HOME?
THEN, ARE YOU GONNA SHACK UP WITH HER?
THERE COULD BE A PROBLEM THERE, EH?

I WANT TO GIVE IT BACK WITH MY OWN HANDS.
WHA?
DID YOU JUST SAY SOME-THING?
WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER
It's just me yet.
I FOUND YOU.
FOUND YOU.

SPECIAL ONE...
MY
BUT YOU WILL NOTICE ME...!
YOU CAN'T SEE ME,

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Vermillion

by Satoh Atsuki

chapter 3

credits

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Translator Rowingmyboat
Proofreader Rukayex Wonder
Cleaner PhantomWing
Redrawer PhantomWing
Typesetter Suukantsu
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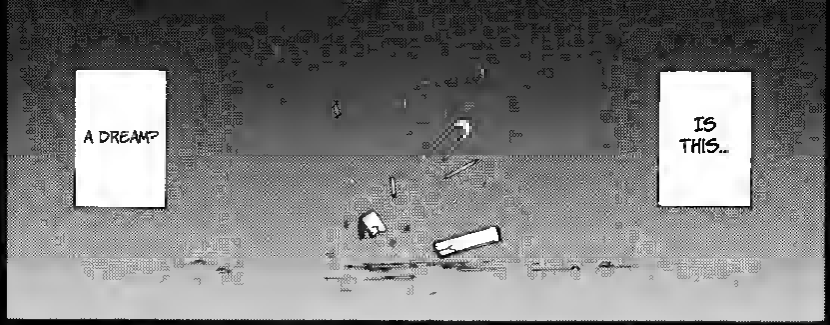
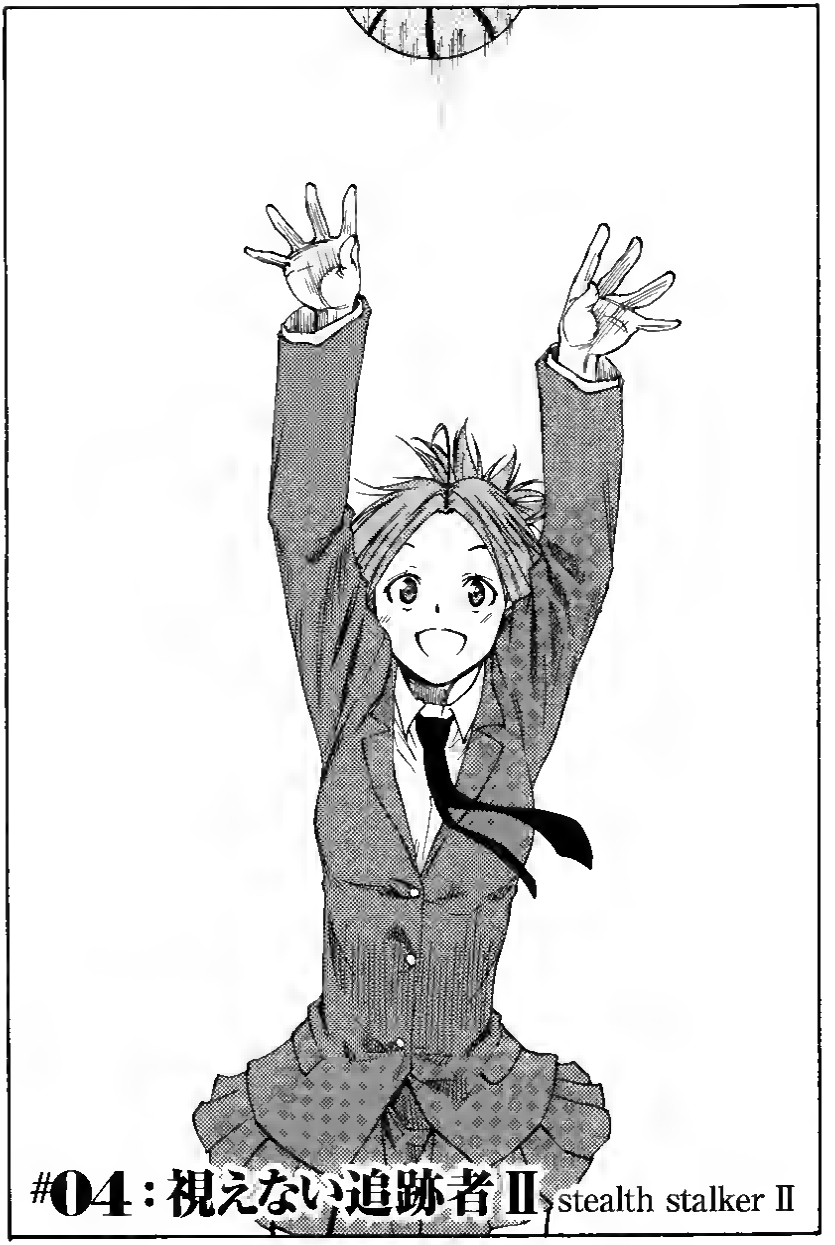


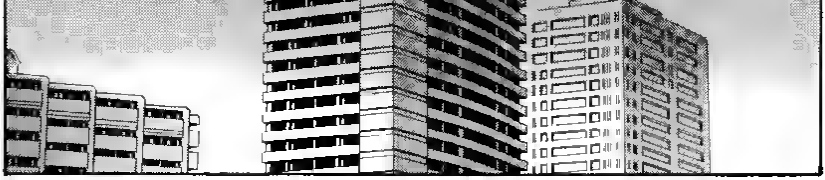
#04

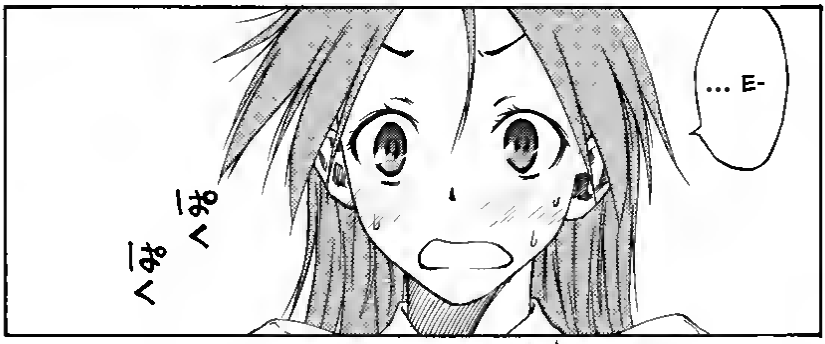
.....
MMM
...
IT REALLY WAS A DREAM ...?
WHERE AM I...?
This isn't my house
...HMMM.
EH?

UMM... I WONDER, WHAT TIME IS IT?
This room is so dusty
WHERE'S THE CLOCK.
AH.
THERE IT IS.
HMMM, 6 O'CLOCK...
in the morning
HM?
A... PICTURE?
THIS GIRL...
WHO IS SHE?



#04：視えない追跡者Ⅱ stealth stalker Ⅱ

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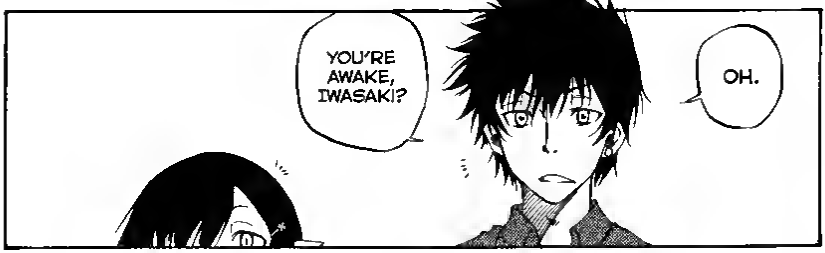
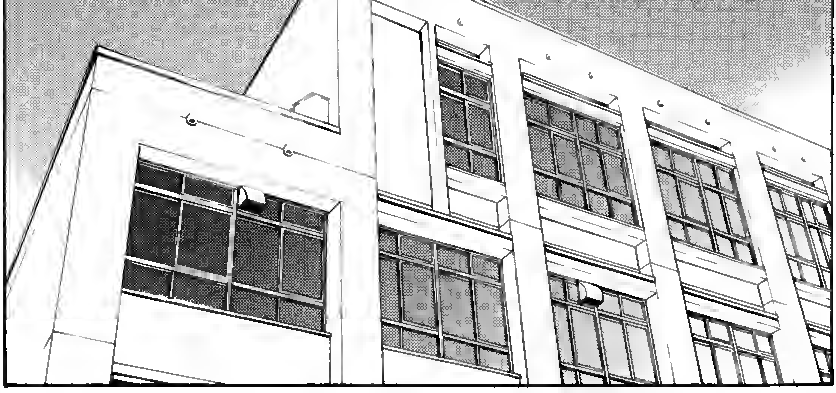
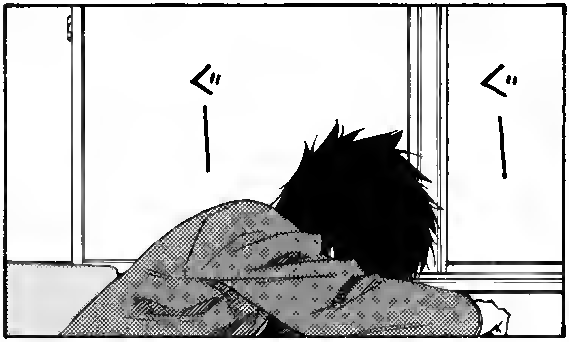

YOU'RE AWAKE, IWASAKI?
OH.

WHY AM I...?!
WHA ...
THIS IS YOUR PLACE!?
ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER... DON'T OVERTHINK IT.
HUH? NO- I..
WHA?!

OKAY, HOLD ON, HOLD ON.
Let me remember!
I REMEMBER WALKING HOME WITH KISAKI-KUN YESTERDAY.
WE WERE ATTACKED BY THE INVISIBLE SLASHER...
AND THEN...
HM?
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING FROM ME?

She's drinking beer...
IS THIS GIRL YOUR LITTLE SISTER?
UMM, KISAKI-KUN,
NO, THAT'S ...
AH, NO.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT HER
UMM ...
HEY, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ME, RIGHT? I'M HIS...
MOTHER. ♡
HUH,
WHA!?
LIKE ANYONE WOULD BELIEVE THAT.
You're just some kimo
I'M JUST GONNA FALL ASLEEP, ANYWAY. BETTER TO SLEEP AT HOME THAN AT SCHOOL.
So annoying
THEY REALLY DO SEEM LIKE MOTHER AND SON...
AT LEAST BE THERE FOR ROLL CALL!
JUST GO ALREADY.
YOU GET YOUR BUTT TO SCHOOL, MISTER.
WELL...
I'M GOING BACK TO BED.
You there
I'm sent

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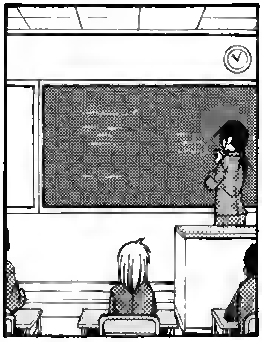
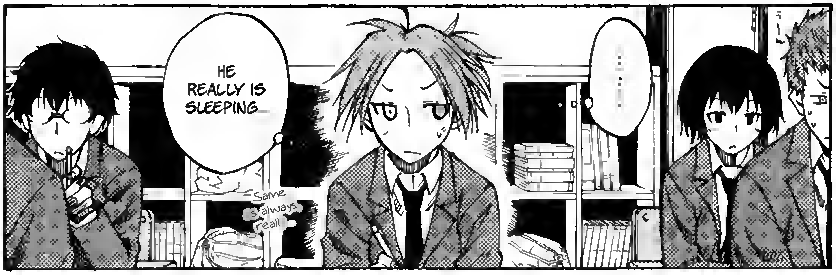
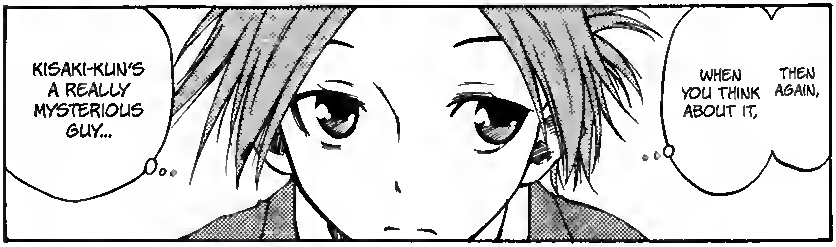
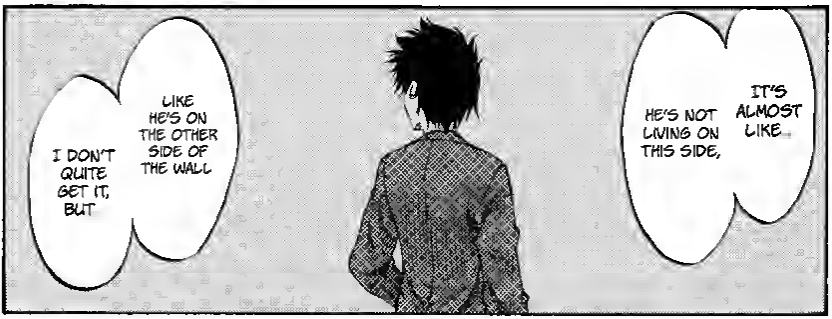


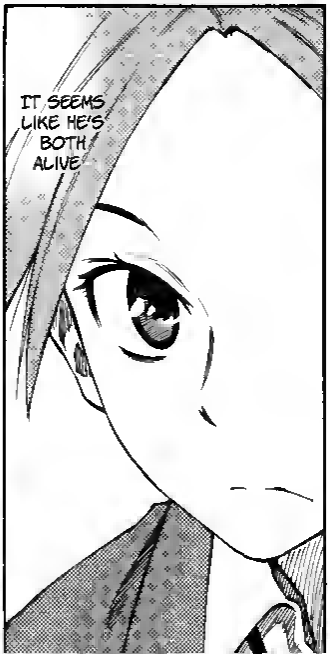

HE REALLY IS SLEEPING...
Same always real!
.....
H...


KISAKI-KUN'S A REALLY MYSTERIOUS GUY...
WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
THEN AGAIN,

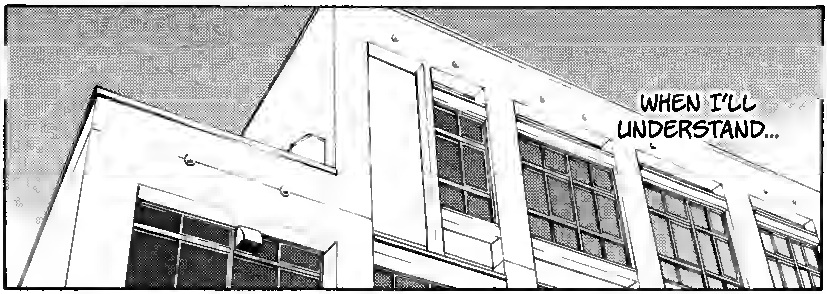
HE'S ALWAYS SLEEPING AT SCHOOL,
AND HE NEVER SEEMS TOO INTERESTED WHEN I TALK TO HIM.
Could be his personality though.
AND SOMEHOW, HE JUST RECENTLY BROKE HIS ARM.

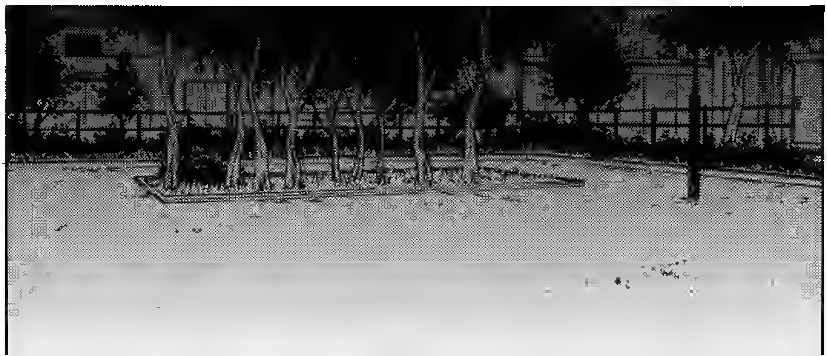

IT'S ALMOST LIKE
HE'S NOT LIVING ON THIS SIDE,
LIKE HE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL
I DON'T QUITE GET IT, BUT

AND DEAD.


IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S BOTH ALIVE

WHEN I KNOW WHAT THAT IS
I WONDER IF THERE WILL COME A TIME
.....


WHEN I'LL UNDERSTAND...



.....
BAIT!?
YEAH, I WANT YOU TO WALK ALONE FOR A BIT.
WE'LL BE CLOSE BY.
And I thought I had taken us across this stream.
.....
YOU MEAN... YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE PHANTOM SLASHER!?
WHY AM I BEING PURSUED BY THIS...
THING...?

SOMETHING SPECIAL...
THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU
...KISAKI-KUN.
THERE REALLY IS *SOMETHING ABOUT* YOU
I NOTICED IT YESTERDAY TOO BUT...
I PROMISE
I'LL END THIS TODAY
I'M ONE OF *THOSE THINGS*.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IN ME.
I WON'T LET HIM LAY A FINGER ON YOU.

LIKE HE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL.

IT'S LIKE HE'S NOT LIVING ON THIS SIDE...

SO, SHOW ME...
I'LL BELIEVE IN YOU, KISAKI-KUN.
... OK.
THE WORLD YOU SEE...

ビギ
ビギ
ビキッ
OK,
I'LL SHOW YOU.

SINCE YOU BELIEVE IN ME,
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW.
ギギ
ギ

...
KI-

...
That's the first thing you noticed?
KISAKI-KUN, YOU WENT PUNK!?
EH-!?

I LIKE YOU SO MUCH, I JUST MIGHT ADOPT YOU.
YOU'RE A PRETTY FUNNY KID.
UWAH, HORNS!?
AH, KISAKI'S MOTHE...
No that's not right
AHAHA.
HE LOOKS A LOT DIFFERENT, DOESN'T HE?
!

I'M MIROKU.
I DIDN'T INTRO-DUCE MYSELF, DID I?
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M A MONSTER,
BUT I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY.
OK.
A DREAM
IT WASN'T...
WELL,
LET'S NOT SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF,
NOW.

OK, SENJU, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO...
AGAINST A DEMON YOU CAN'T SEE?

IT LET GO...
Its tongue!
!
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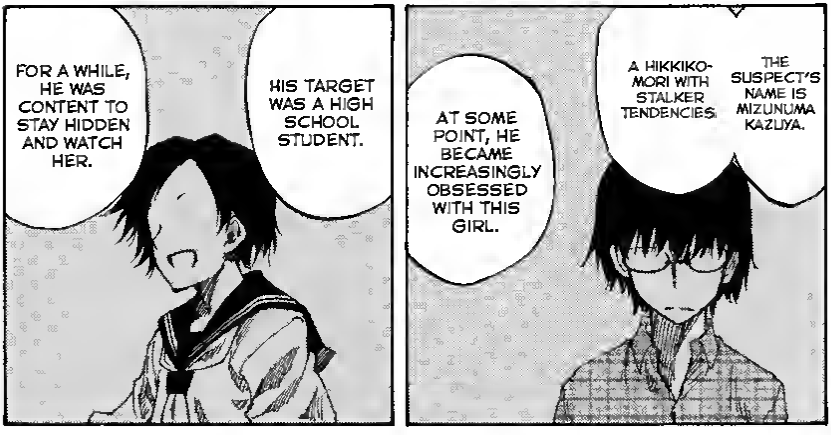
...
!
ズ
ズ
ズ
WHY ARE YOU GETTING IN MY WAY?
... WHY?
IS FOR HER TO NOTICE ME
ALL I WANT...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
I JUST WANT TO GET THE GIRL I LIKE TO LOOK AT ME
ズ
ズ
From out of now here
A VOICE...!?
Oh.
HE SPOKE.

I MIGHT BE ABLE TO
IF HE CAN UNDER-STAND ME,
YOU'RE CONTRA-DICTING YOUR-SELF.
YET YOU WON'T SHOW YOURSELF, EH?
KYAA!

... UGH.
ボトッ
!
ビチ
ビチ
ビチ
I DON'T WANT TO BE SEEN...
BY ANYONE,
NOT EVEN BY MYSELF.

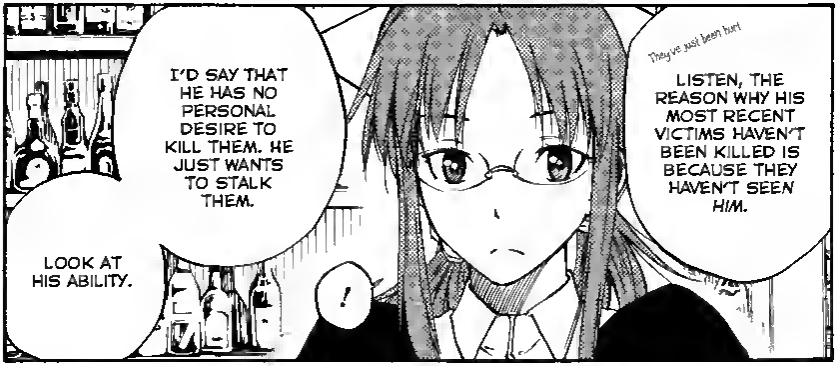
バサッ
TWO YEARS AGO,
ストーカー殺
A GIRL WAS KILLED BY A STALKER IN THIS TOWN.
THE DEMON WE'RE AFTER IS PROBABLY THE CRIMINAL FROM THAT CASE.

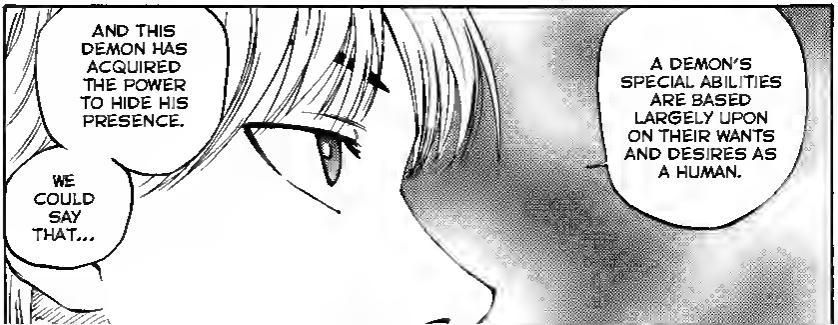
IN ORDER TO BECOME A DEMON, YOU MUST HAVE KILLED AT LEAST ONE PERSON.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
WE'VE NEVER REALLY PAID ATTENTION TO NORMAL CRIMES.
WELL, SINCE HE'S NEVER BEEN CAUGHT, THERE'S NO DOUBT IT'S HIM.


THE SUSPECT'S NAME IS MIZUNUMA KAZUYA.
A HIKKIKOMORI WITH STALKER TENDENCIES.
AT SOME POINT, HE BECAME INCREASINGLY OBSESSED WITH THIS GIRL.
HIS TARGET WAS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
FOR A WHILE, HE WAS CONTENT TO STAY HIDDEN AND WATCH HER.

I'D GUESS HIS MOTIVE WAS PROBABLY THE FACT THAT HE HAD BEEN SEEN.
EVENTUALLY, MIZUNUMA KILLED THE GIRL,
AND JUST LIKE THAT, HE VANISHED.

THE REASON WAS SIMPLY THE FACT THAT HE HAD BEEN SEEN.
OR MAYBE...
I'D SAY HE WAS PROBABLY AFRAID OF BEING POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AND ARRESTED BY THE POLICE,
DON'T YOU THINK?

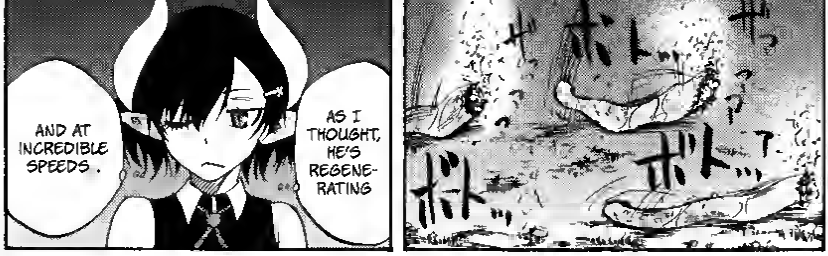

I'D SAY THAT HE HAS NO PERSONAL DESIRE TO KILL THEM. HE JUST WANTS TO STALK THEM.
LOOK AT HIS ABILITY.
They've just been hurt
LISTEN, THE REASON WHY HIS MOST RECENT VICTIMS HAVEN'T BEEN KILLED IS BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T SEEN HIM.


AND THIS DEMON HAS ACQUIRED THE POWER TO HIDE HIS PRESENCE.
WE COULD SAY THAT...
A DEMON'S SPECIAL ABILITIES ARE BASED LARGELY UPON ON THEIR WANTS AND DESIRES AS A HUMAN.

A DEMON'S POWERS REVEAL THEIR SOLE REASON FOR EXISTENCE.

YOU'LL JUDGE WHO I AM.
IF I'M SEEN,

THE GIRL THAT SAW ME.
THAT'S WHY I KILLED HER,
I HAD TO DESTROY IT.
I COULDN'T ACCEPT THE IMAGE OF MYSELF SHE HAD CREATED IN HER HEART.
.....
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE MYSELF AN IDENTITY.
I DON'T LIKE TO BE LABELED.
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO BE CERTAIN.
LIKE THE CAT IN THE BOX*,
*T/N: Schrodinger's cat


AND AT INCREDIBLE SPEEDS.
AS I THOUGHT, HE'S REGENERATING
ボトッ
ボトッ

AND THAT'S WHY WE CAN'T SEE HIS DEMON CORE
THAT'S WHY HE CAN REGENERATE
HE DOESN'T WANT ANYTHING TO BE CERTAIN

IN THAT CASE...
I'VE FIGURED YOU OUT.
ならー
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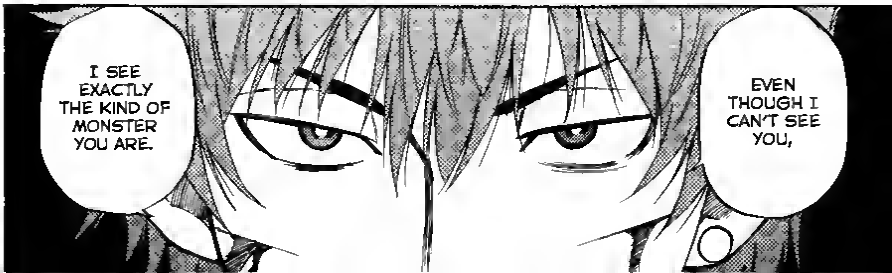
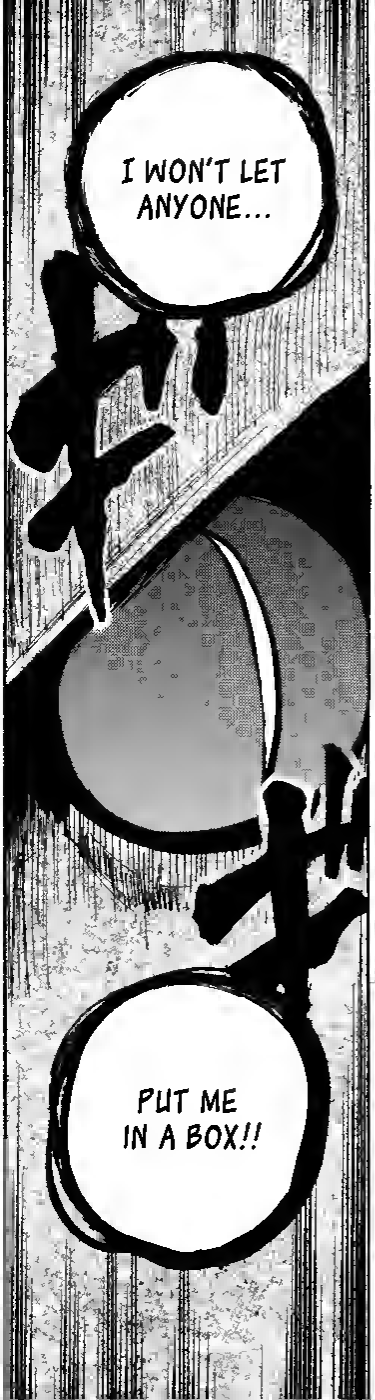

I SEE EXACTLY THE KIND OF MONSTER YOU ARE.
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SEE YOU,

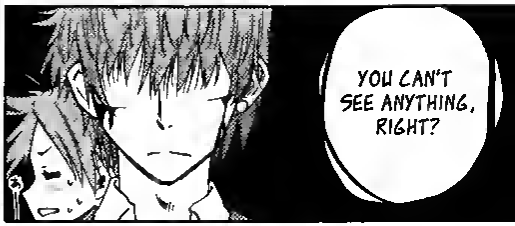
I WAS THE ONE WHO NOTICED IT, THOUGH.
I figured it out when I spoke to him yesterday.
YOU'RE HIDING YOURSELF BY DEFLECTING ALL THE LIGHT THAT HITS YOUR BODY.
YOUR POWER IS A KIND OF BARRIER.
TO PUT THE THEORY ... IN WORDS ...
THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE TO REACH OUT TO OTHERS.
BUT YOU CAN'T STAND THE LONELINESS.
WELL, THE POINT IS LESS HOW WE EXPLAIN IT, MORE SO.
THAT'S THE KIND OF MONSTER YOU ARE.
YOU'RE COWARDLY, SELF-CENTERED, AND A BRAT.
UMM...
HOW DO I FEEL...
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM?
Make it clear
IWASAKI,
SAY SOMETHING.
HUH!?
Me!?

HE'S ANNOYING
A pest?
STOP IT.
.....!!
DON'T LABEL ME!!

!!
I CAN'T GET MY BEARINGS IT'S MAKING ME SICK.
IT'S PITCH BLACK. I CAN'T SEE A THING...
YEAH.
THIS IS...
HE'S EXPANDED HIS BARRIER.


I WON'T LET ANYONE...
PUT ME IN A BOX!!

THIS IS MY WORLD.
NO LIGHT REACHES THIS PLACE.
IT'S COMPLETE DARKNESS.
WELL?

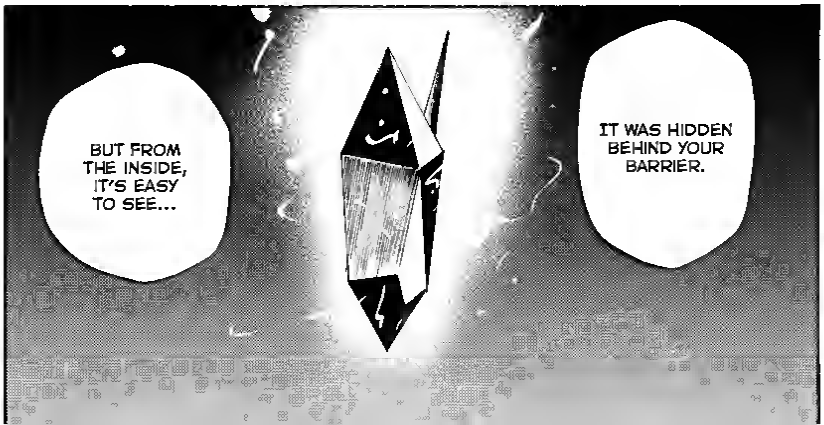

YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING, RIGHT?

JUST LIKE I DID TO THE GIRL WHO SAW ME.
I WILL KILL ANYONE WHO LABELS ME.

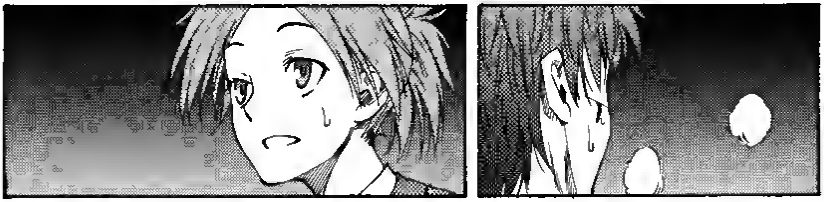
I SEE YOU CLEARLY.
YEAH.

THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T NOTICE...
!?
BUT YOU NEVER THOUGHT TO LOOK AT YOURSELF.

IT WAS THAT WE COULDN'T SEE YOUR DEMON CORE.
YOUR STRENGTH WASN'T THAT WE COULDN'T SEE YOU.


BUT FROM THE INSIDE, IT'S EASY TO SEE...
IT WAS HIDDEN BEHIND YOUR BARRIER.

A DEMON LIKE YOU
FOR DEMON SLAYERS LIKE ME.



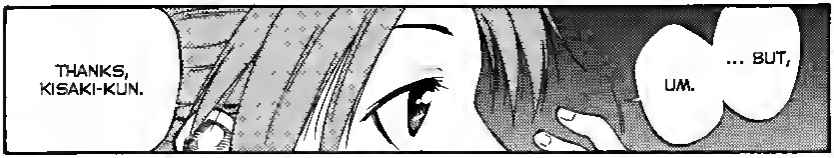
THE WORLD THAT KISAKI-KUN SEES.

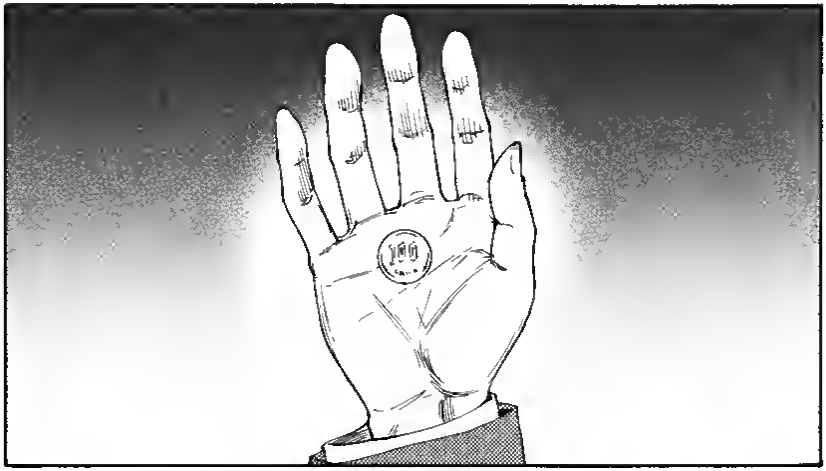
... THIS IS...

THE WORLD ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL...
SO ANYWAYS,
YEAH.
WHY ME?
WE HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA.
...
HUH?
COULD IT BE...
11°
THESE ARE PICTURES OF THE VICTIMS UP TO THIS POINT.
AH.
Is this allowed?

*T/N GIRLS WITH HAIRSTYLES THAT REVEAL THEIR FOREHEADS SEEM TO BE MORE SOCIAL AND ACTIVE IN SPORTS... ETC WHICH IS THE OPPOSITE OF MIZUNUMA'S HIKIKOMORI/STALKER TENDENCIES

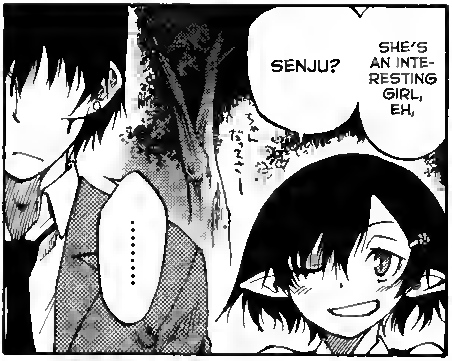
HE ENVIED THE FACT THAT THEY HAD SUCH STRONG CHARACTER THAT THEY COULD REVEAL THEIR FOREHEADS.
MAYBE I SHOULD CHANGE MY HAIRSTYLE.
HUH...
ENVIED THEM.

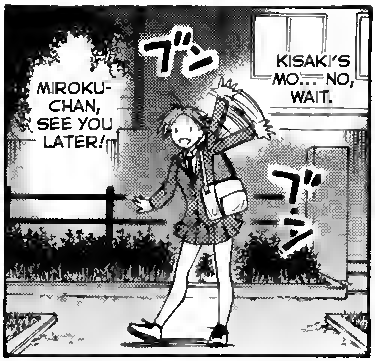




...
I still don't get it
ISN'T THIS WHAT THEY CALL A FLAG?
OH, WHAT'S THIS?

'KAY, I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW, KISAKI-KUN!
IT'S A TIP!
Take it Kid!





VERMILLION VOLUME 1 END